ネトオク男の楽しい異世界貿易

2

星崎 崑
Hoshizaki Kon

MFブックス

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lang="en">

Ch 1-38 Netooku Otoko

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Volume 1 Illustrations

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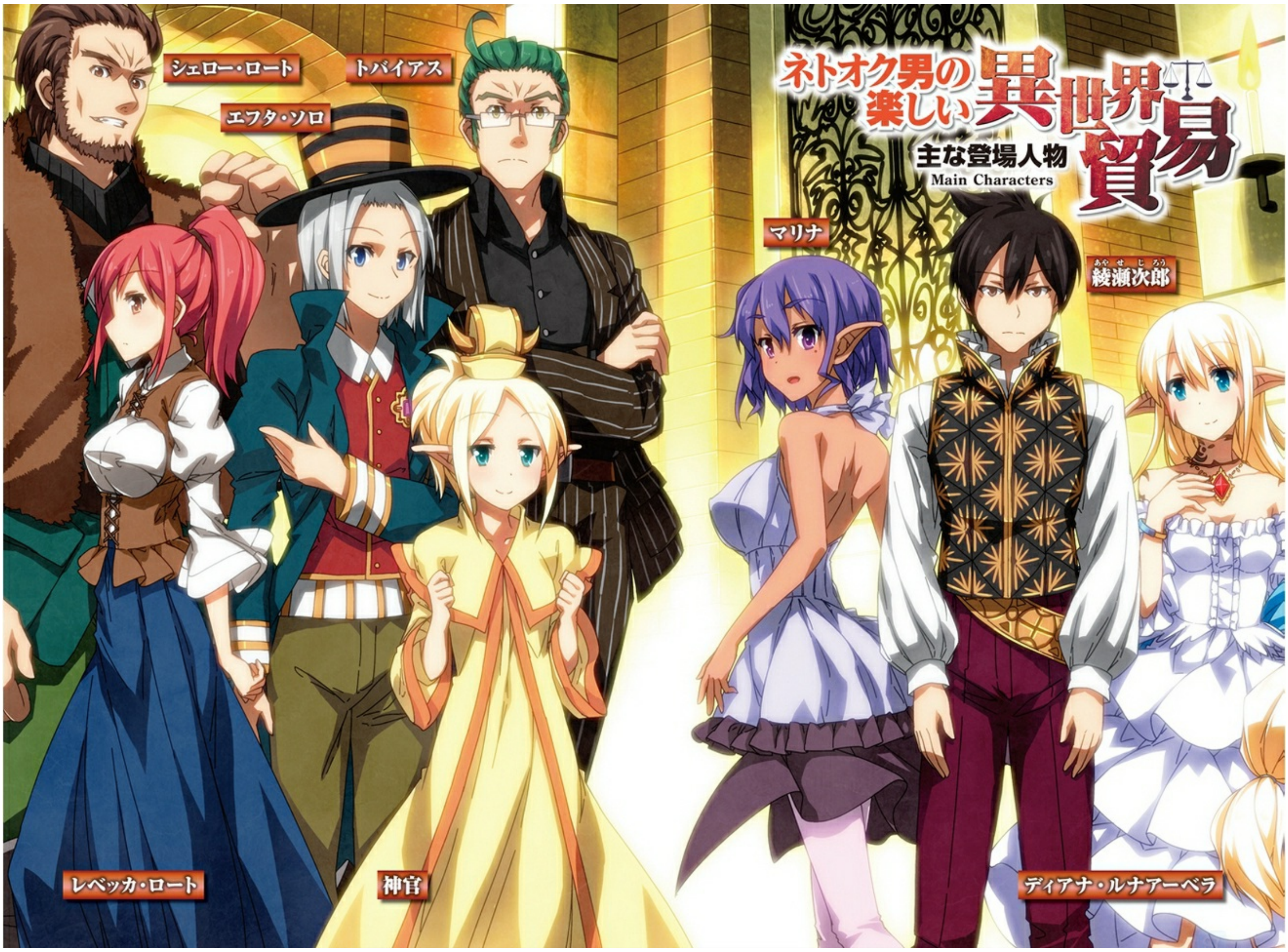
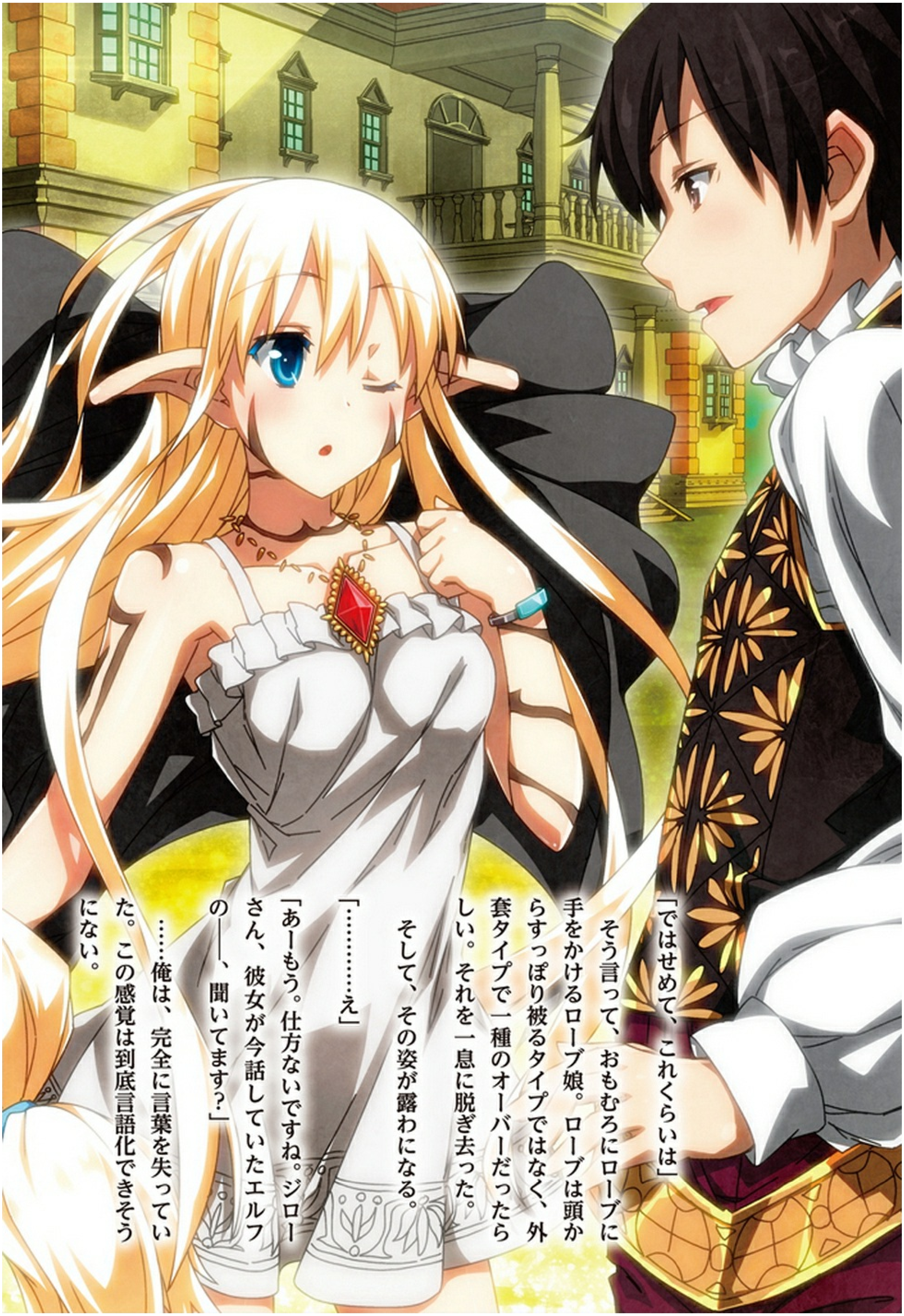

ネトオク男の楽しい異世界貿易
主な登場人物
Main Characters
綾瀬次郎（あやせじろう）
マリナ
ディアナ・ルナアーベラ
トバイアス
シェロー・ロート
エフタ・ソロ
神官
レベッカ・ロート



「ではせめて、これくらいは」

そう言って、おもむろにローブに手をかけるローブ娘。ローブは頭からすっぽり被るタイプではなく、外套タイプで一種のオーバーだったらしい。それを一息に脱ぎ去った。

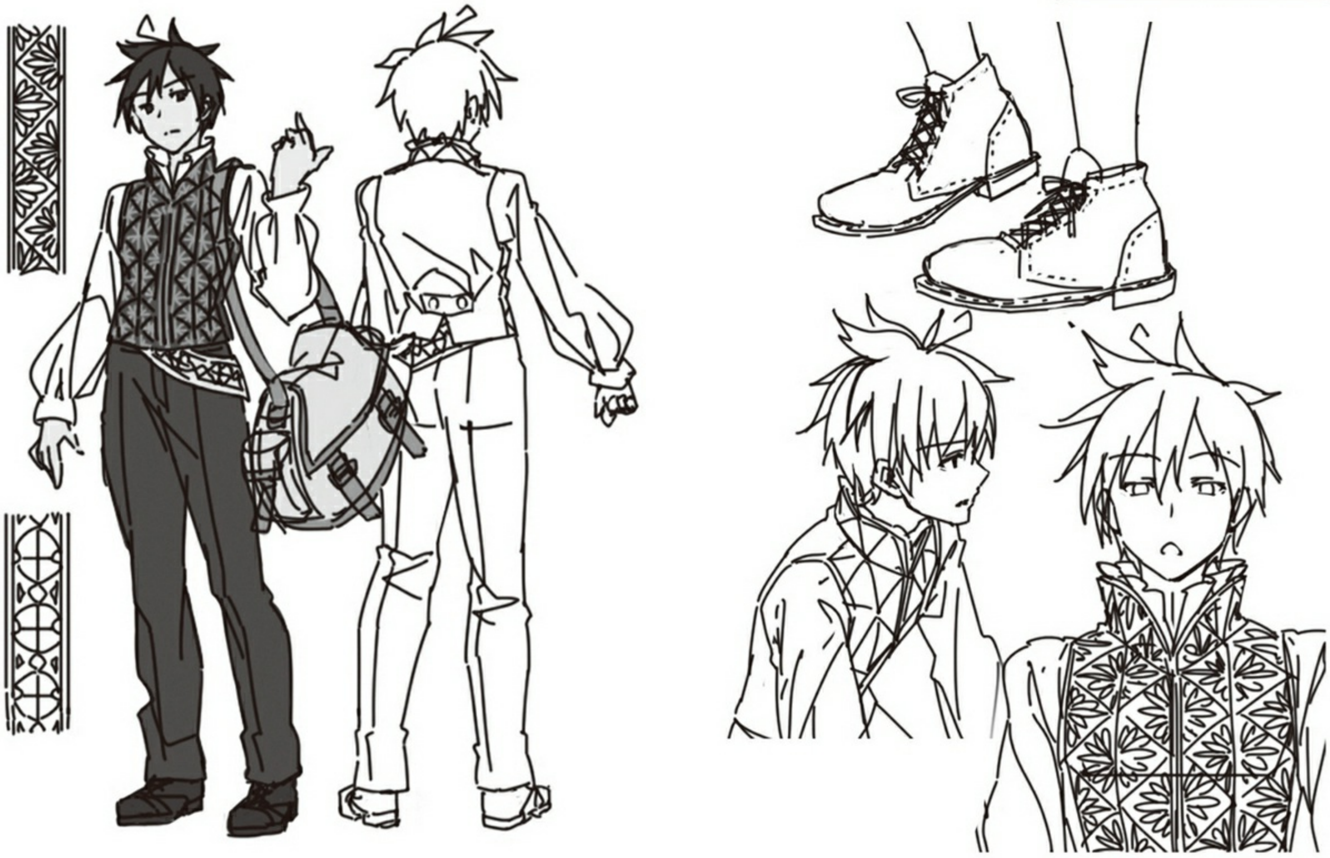
そして、その姿が露わになる。

「…………え」

「あーもう。仕方ないですね。ジローさん、彼女が今話していたエルフの――、聞いてます？」

……俺は、完全に言葉を失っていた。この感覚は到底言語化できそうにない。

ジロー　キャラクター案



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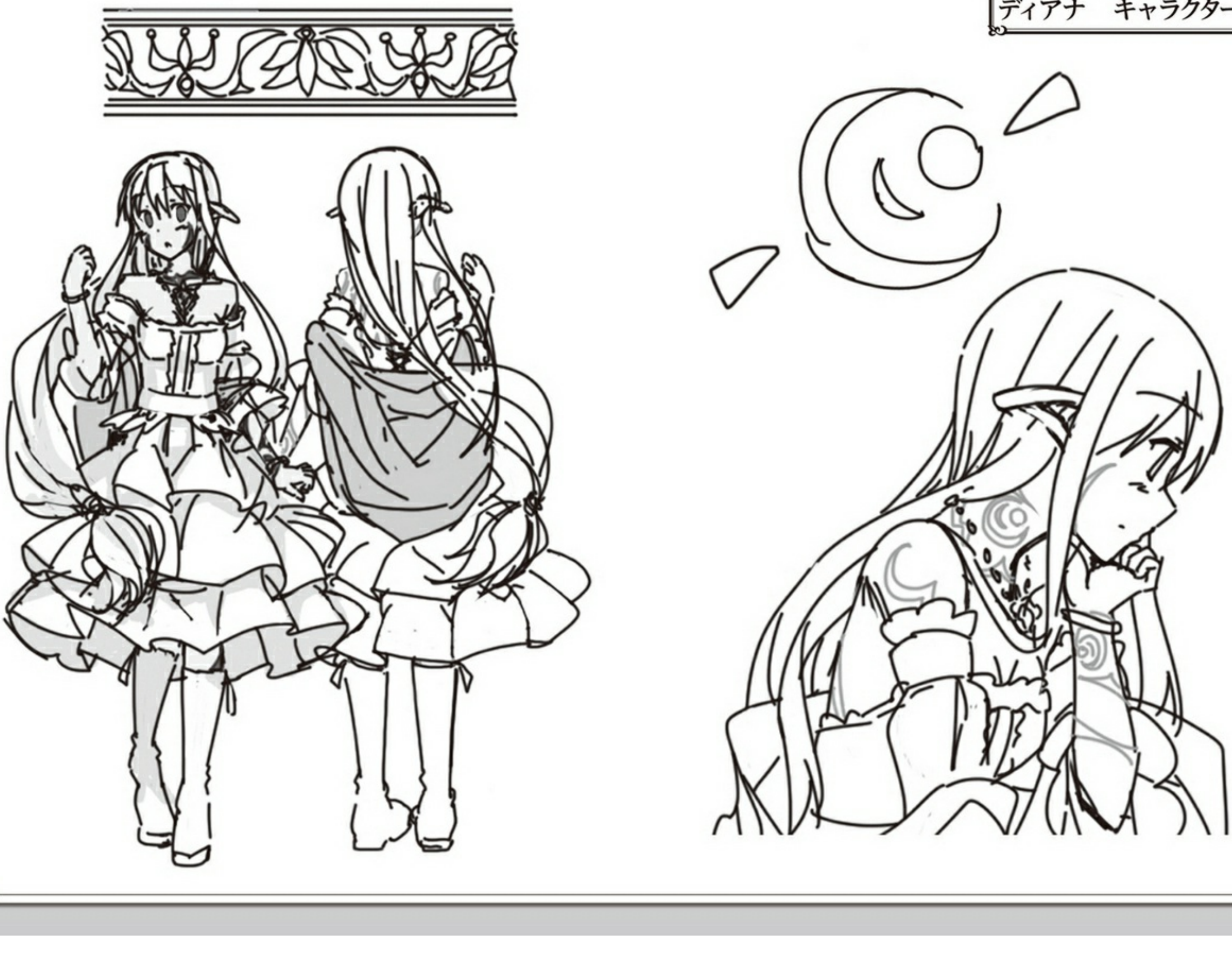
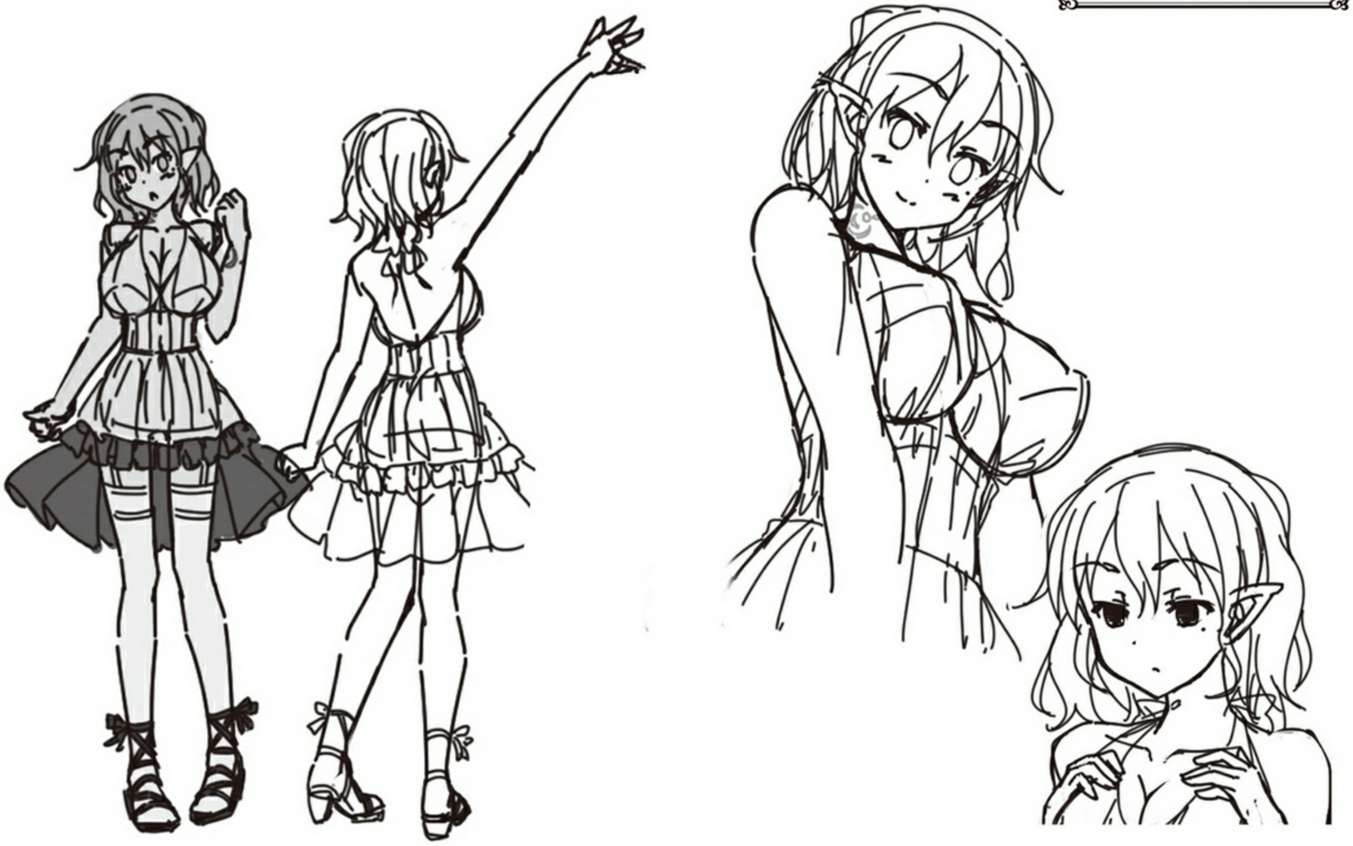


マリナ　キャラクター案



Volume 2 Illustrations

ネトオク男の楽しい
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Volume 2

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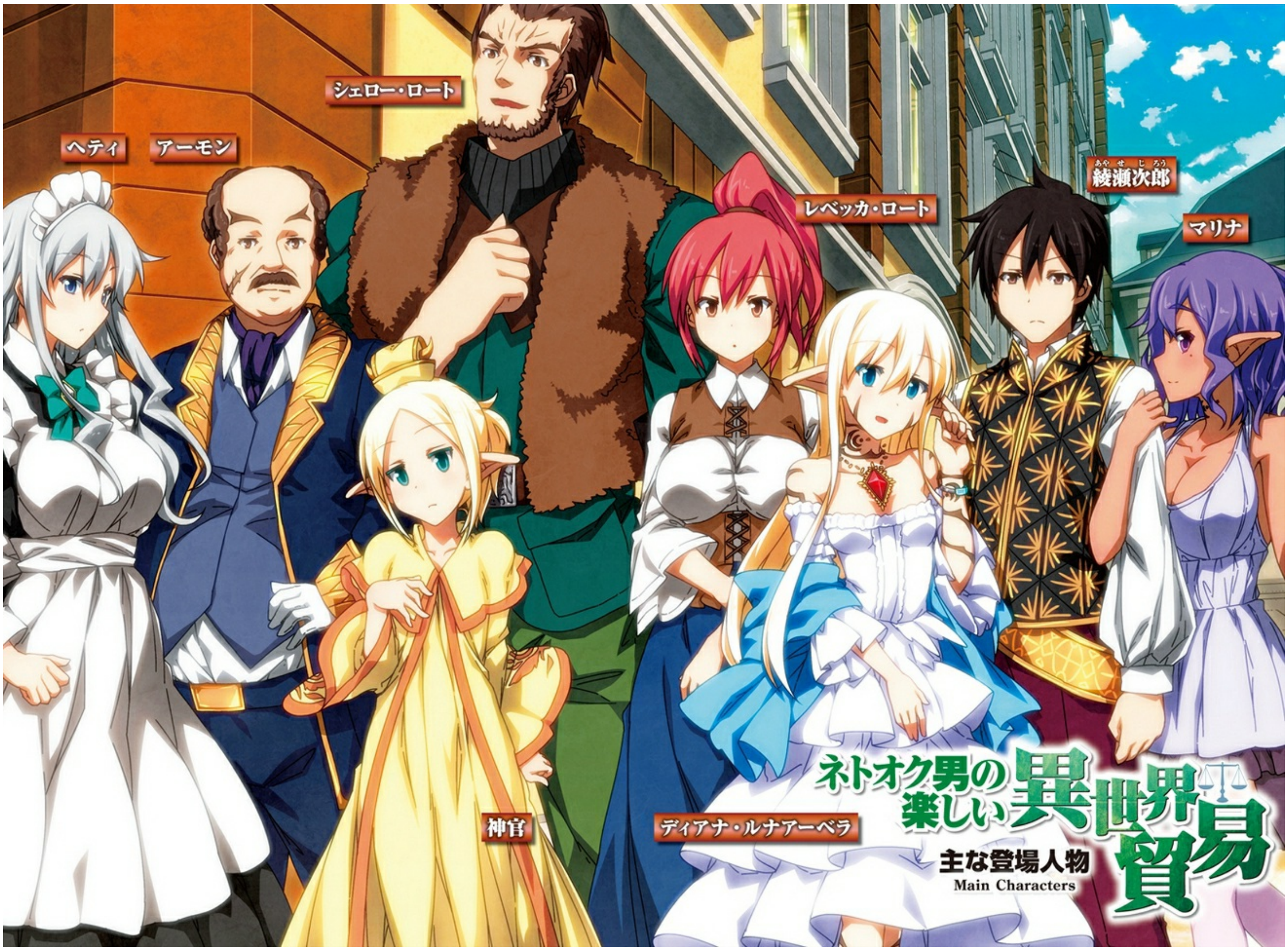
ネトオク男の楽しい異世界貿易
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ヘティ
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神官
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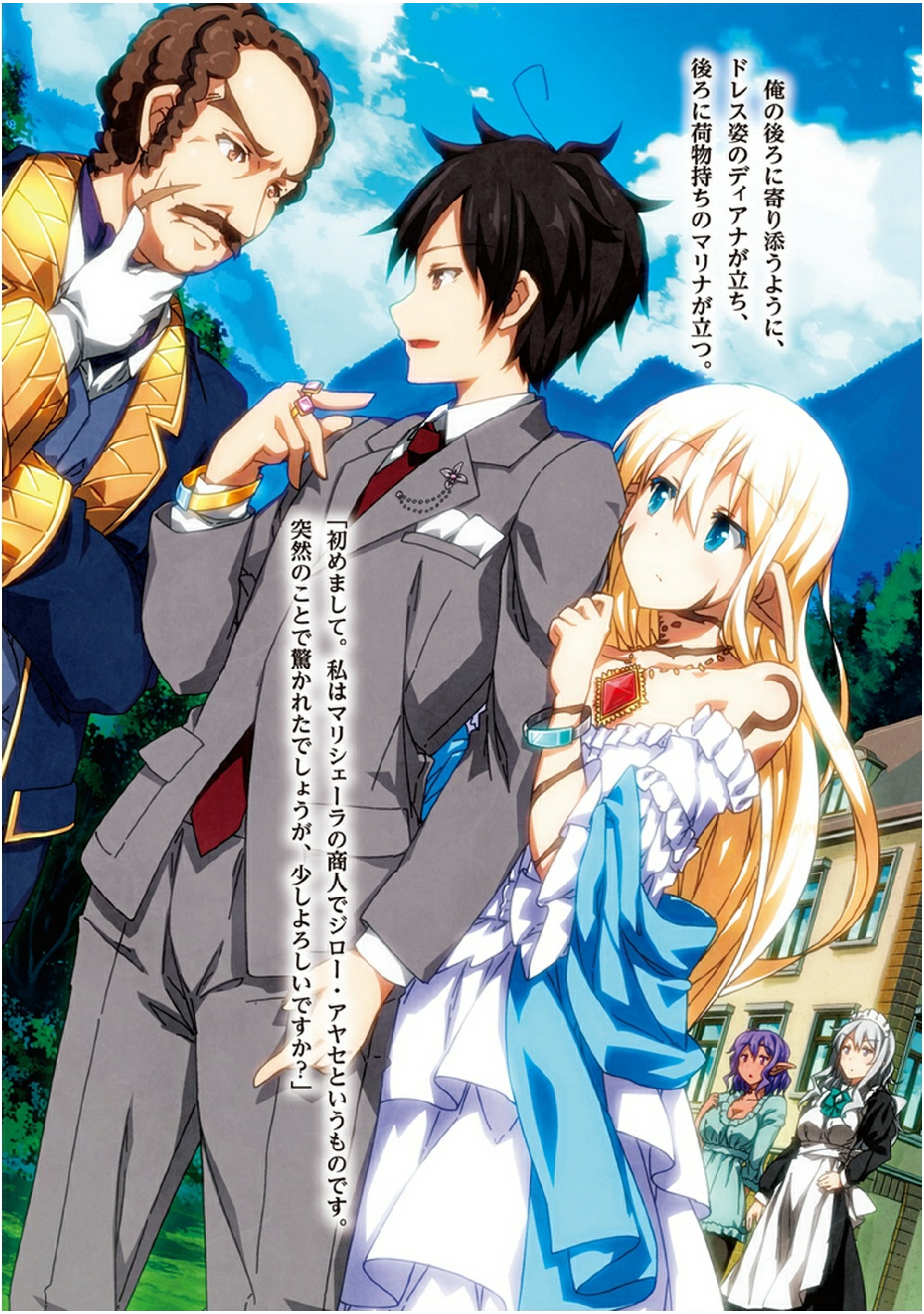
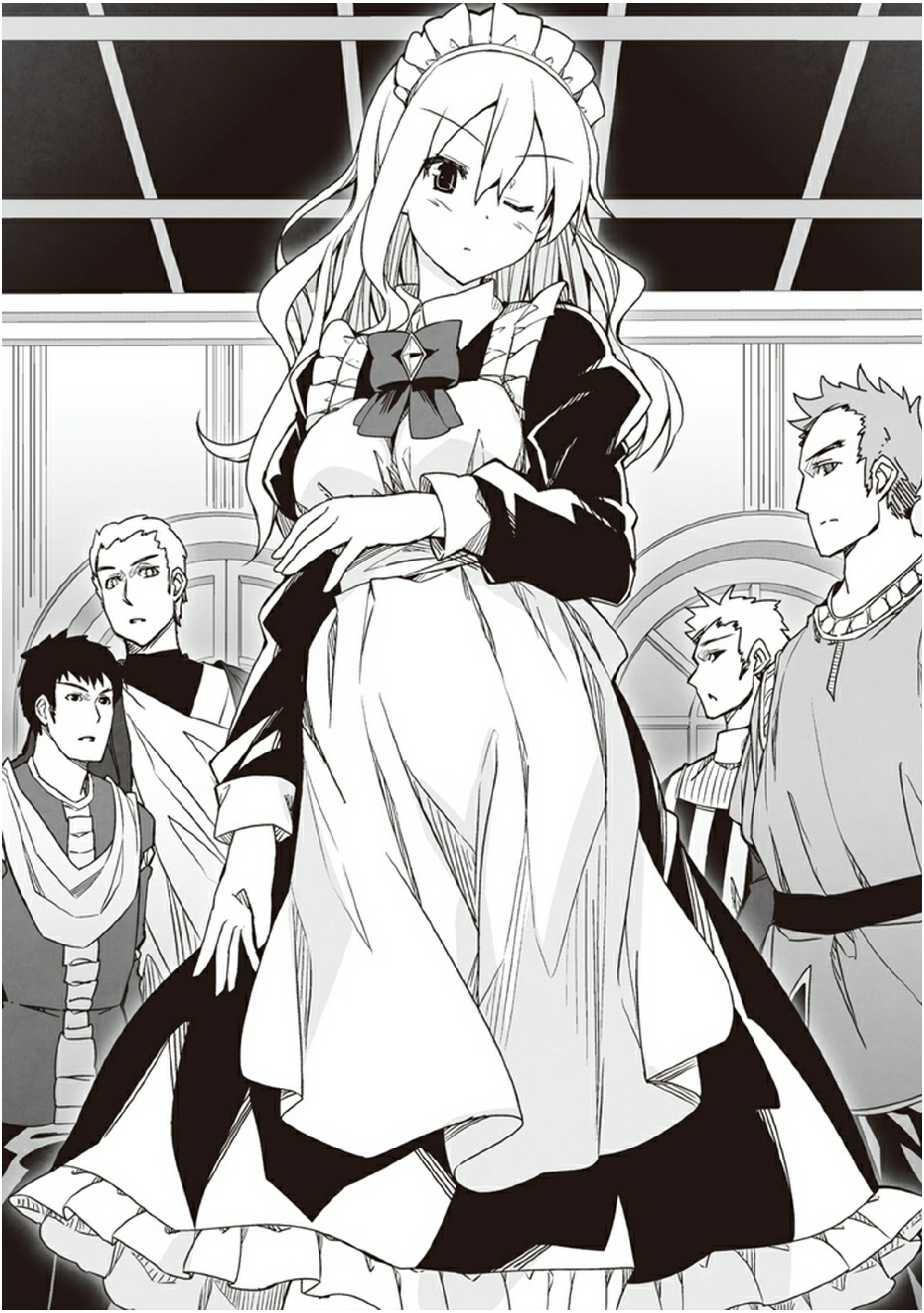
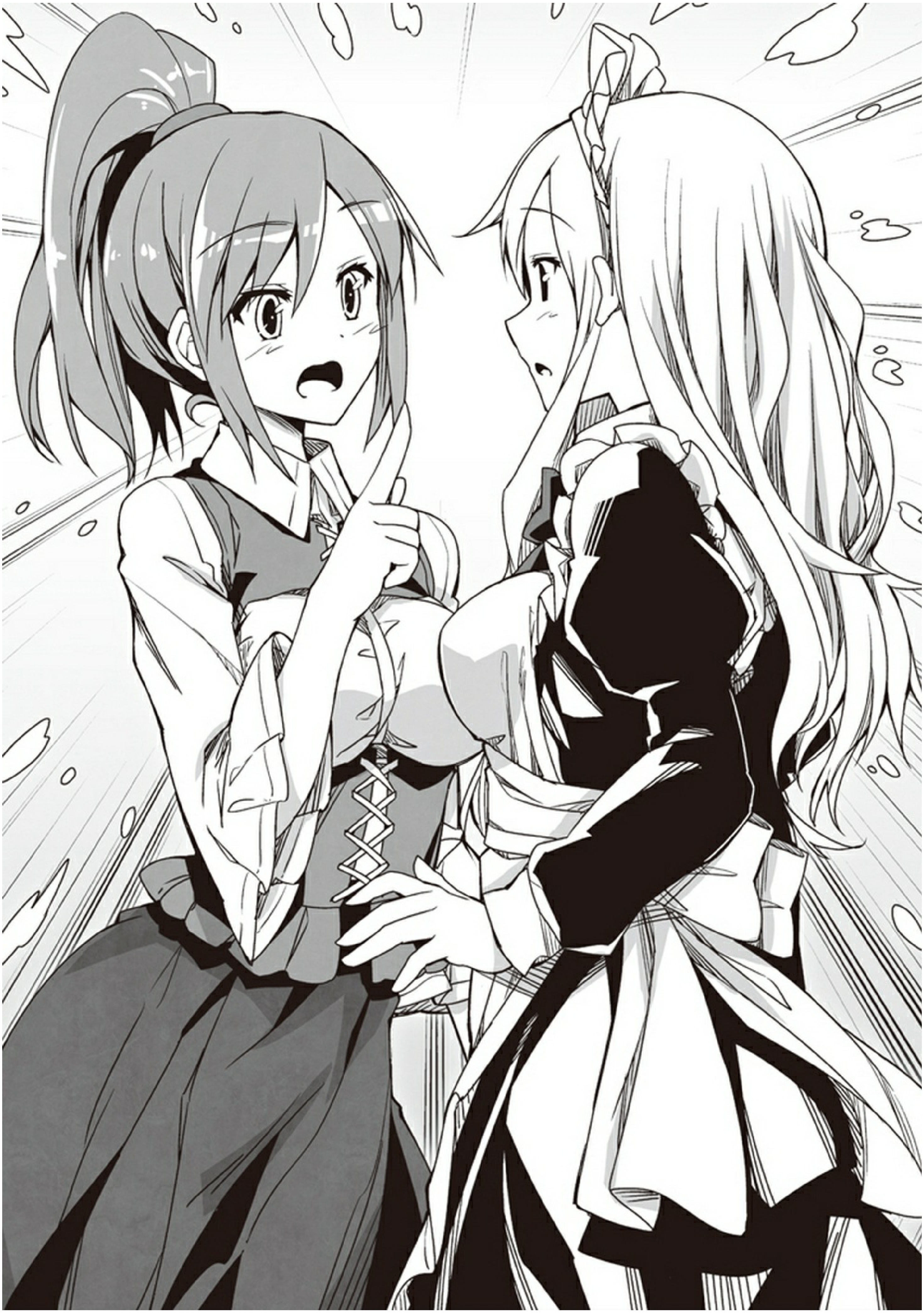
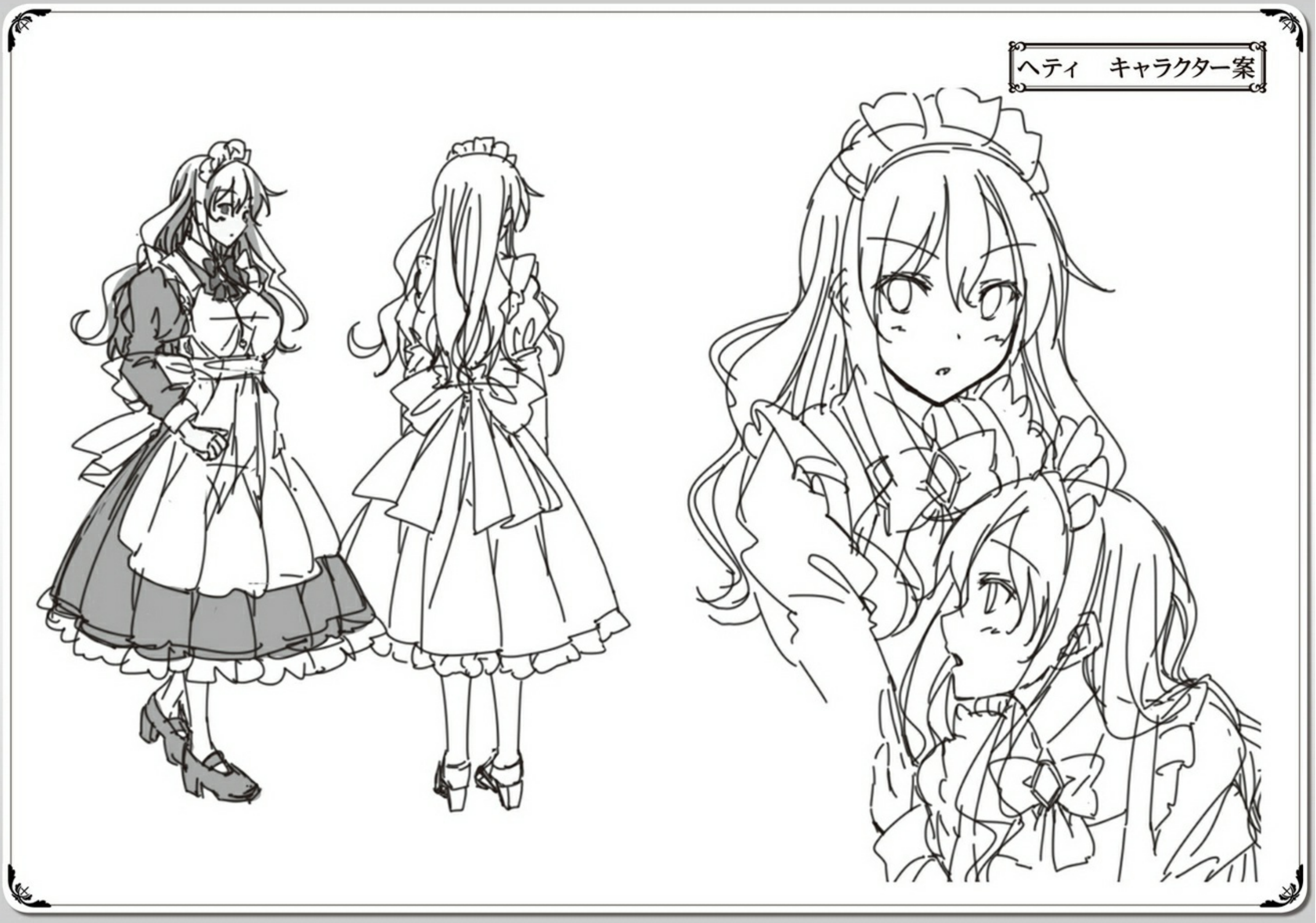
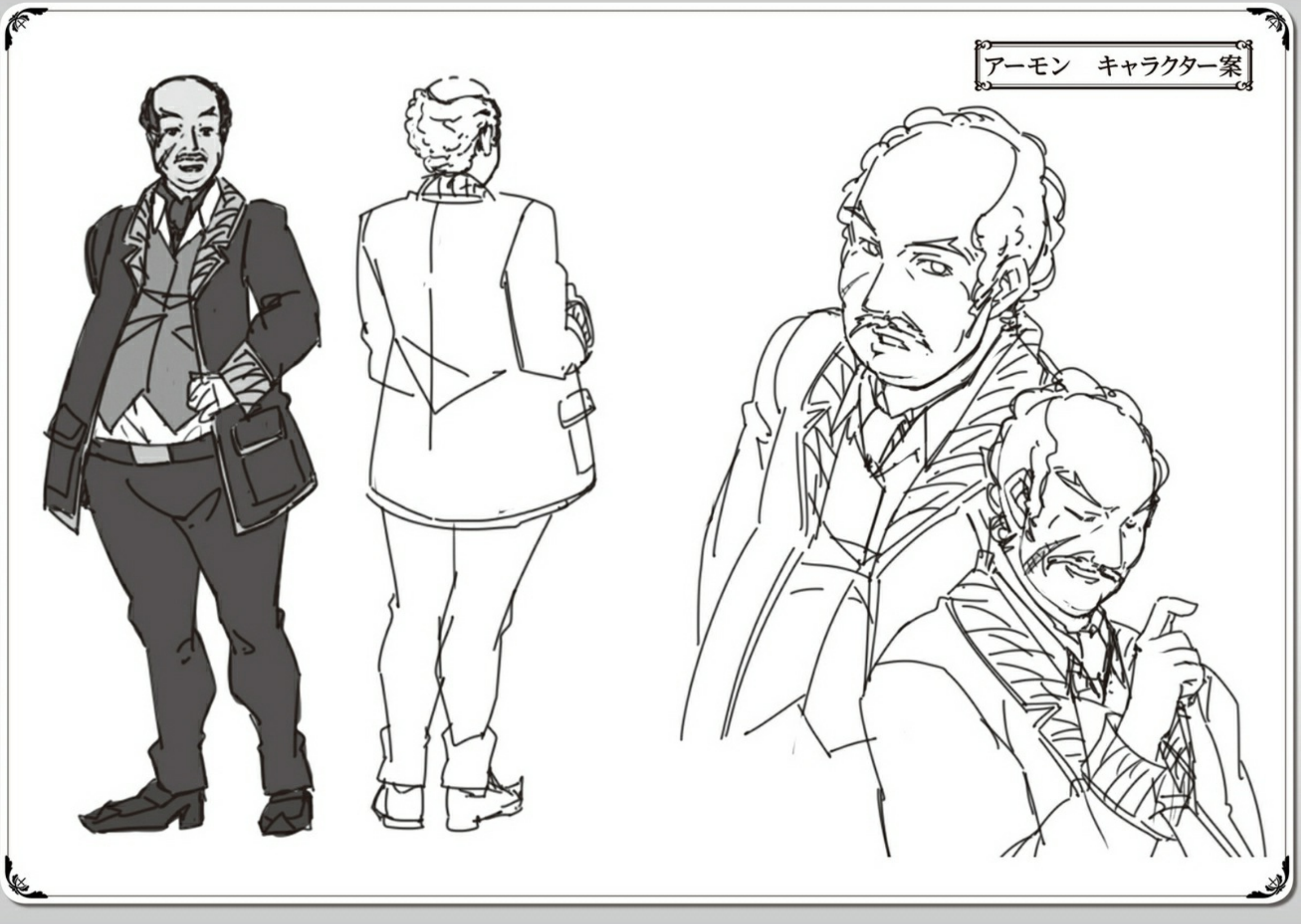
ディアナ・ルナアーベラ
綾瀬次郎（あやせじろう）
マリナ

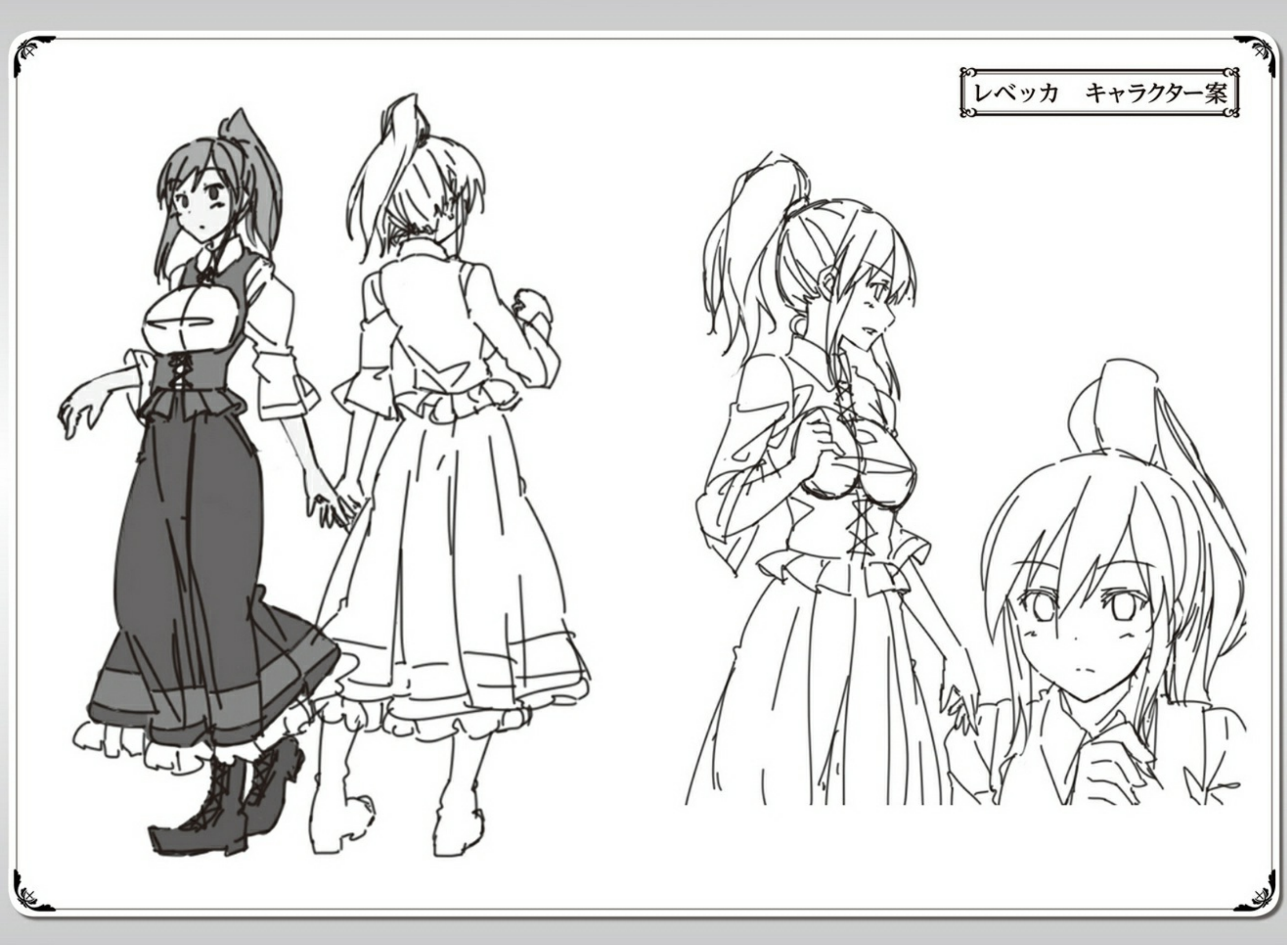

俺の後ろに寄り添うように、
ドレス姿のディアナが立ち、
後ろに荷物持ちのマリナが立つ。
「初めまして。私はマリシェーラの商人でジロー・アヤセというものです。
突然のことで驚かれたでしょうが、少しよろしいですか？」






ヘティ　キャラクター案


アーモン　キャラクター案



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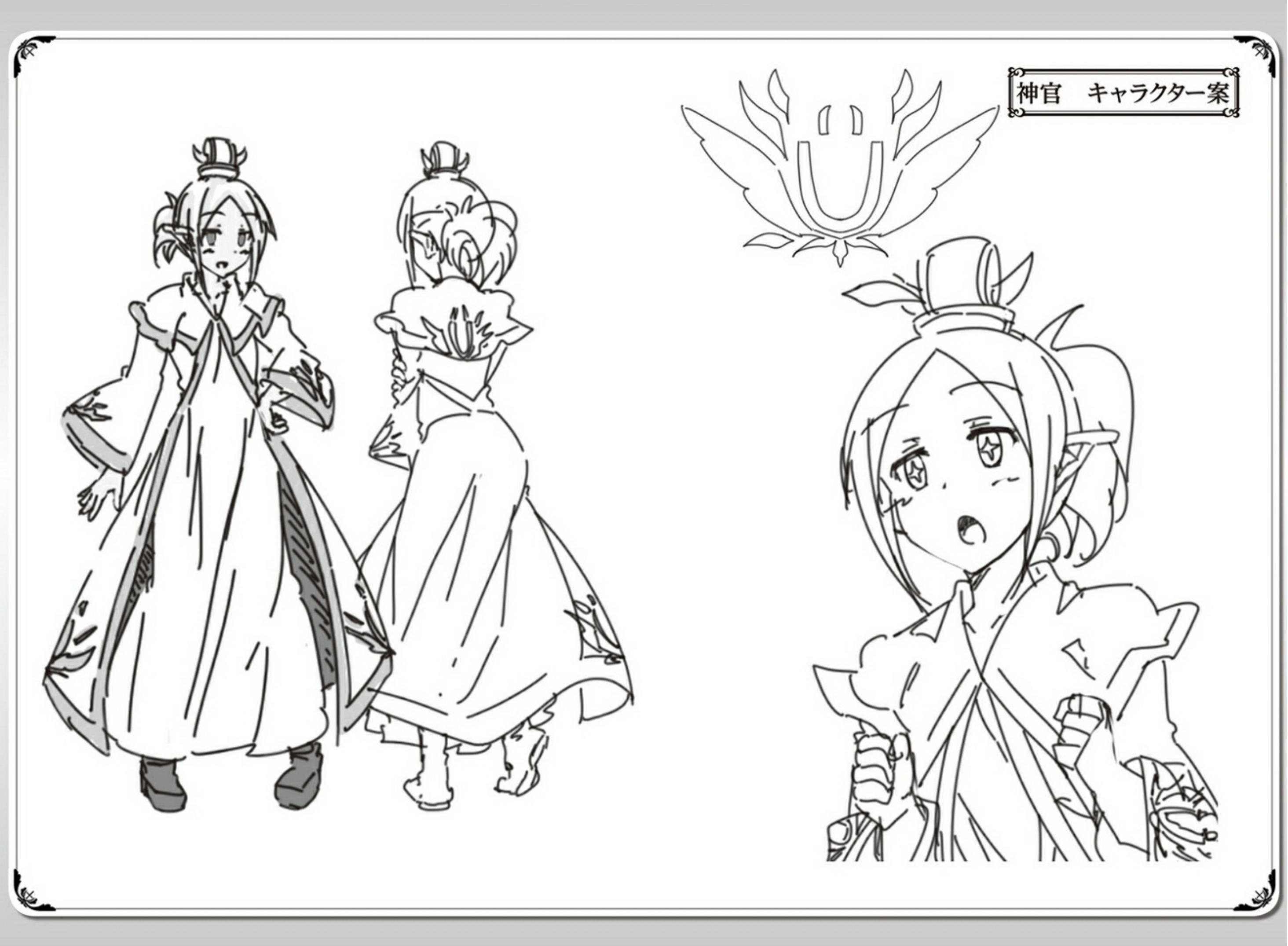
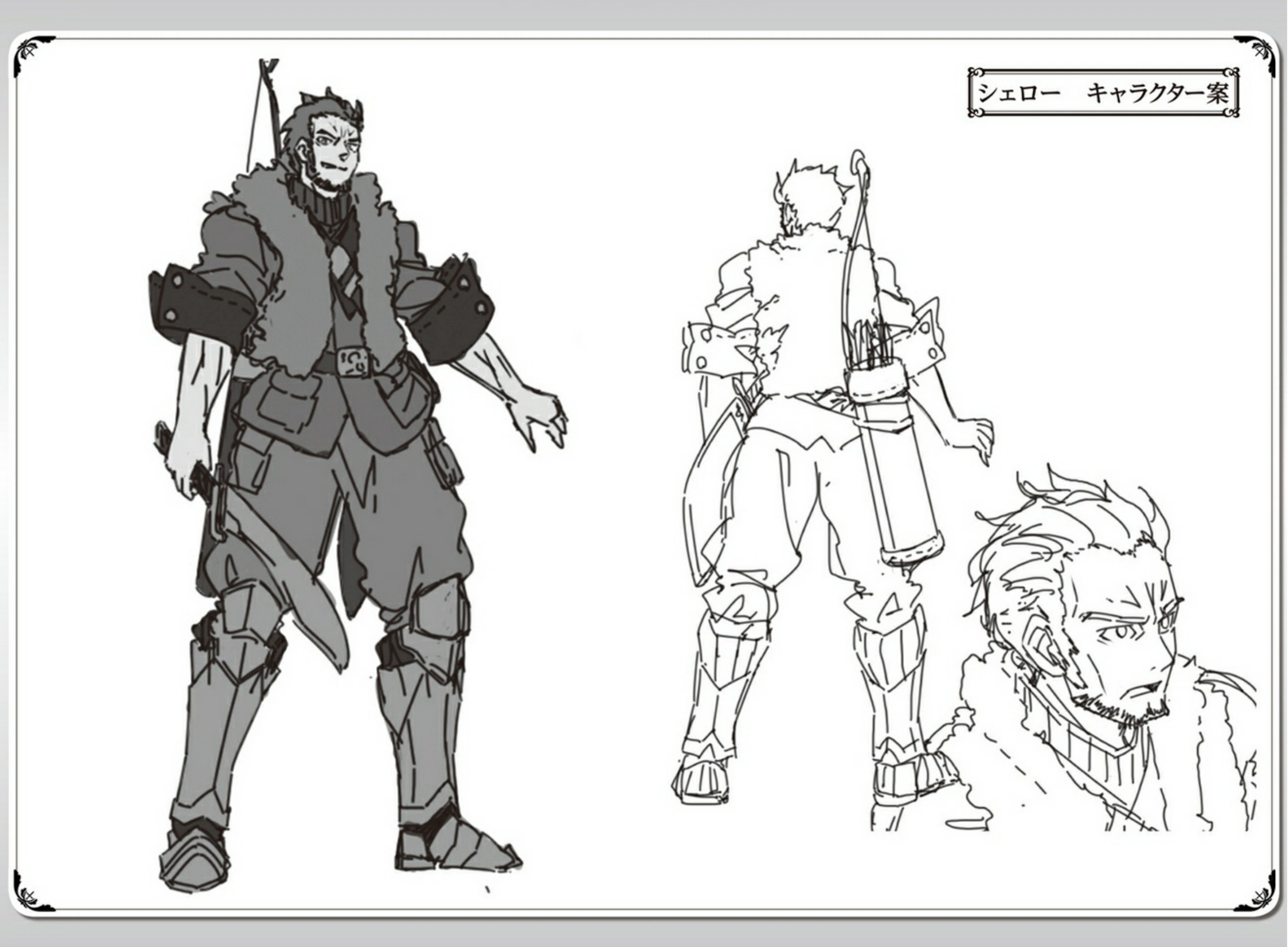


神官　キャラクター案



シェロー　キャラクター案

Chapter 001 – The smell of other world from the innocent mirror

“After passing through the long provisional border, I came across the snow country.”

An opening sentence from a famous novel begin ruminating in my head.

As for me, Ayase Jirou, it should be something even more dramatic like “After passing through the old mirror in the cellar, I came across a dark room there.”

……….Alright. I don’t get the meaning of it myself……….

In that “other world on the other side of the mirror”, was also another mirror in the room. They seemed to be connected to the cellar from the start. The interior of a mysterious cellar was reflected on the surface of the mirror.

In shock, I leaped out of the mirror again and realized that I could still return to the original cellar without any problems.

To be honest, my brain was still unable to comprehend the current situation really well but in short, could this be “The World inside the Mirror”….? I knew that the current thoughts going through my head was foolish but at that moment I was overwhelmed by curiosity and decided to examine the other side of the mirror

I timidly passed through the mirror to the other side as I illuminated the room with the flashlight in my hand. As I emerged out to a musty brick room, I noticed that there was only a wooden box there apart from the mirror.

There was nothing else besides those.

The room is roughly 8 tatami mats in size.
There was nothing outside the window so I was unable to tell the circumstances outside. Since I couldn’t hear anything either, this could be a cellar or something similar. On top of that, there was also a wooden sturdy door here. I should be able to go outside from that door.

In the meantime, I decided to open the only wooden box here in this room.

This wooden box is similar to the treasure box from the RPG game which I used to be absorbed in the last time.

“………Ooopss! Poison dart! ….aw come on spare me from that,” was what I was thinking of but the wooden box was opened naturally without any problem.

The contents were a set of clothing.

The clothes look like they were from the medieval ages or rather, they resemble the clothes usually seen worn by the actors in the Shakespearian play. A long sleeve shirt with frills made out of silk and the golden thread embroidery along with the thick belt and pants truly signifies the clothing of those era.

It was indeed a complete set of equipment. There was nothing else apart from those.
This is seriously a treasure chest isn't it………

I returned the clothes to the box as I considered the next course of action to take. I could go outside the door but……

For the time being, I was still slightly worried about entering the mirror's world so I decided to go back to the cellar.

Even though I was assaulted by the similar musty smell after returning to the original cellar, I was able to go through my thoughts more calmly.

I understood it well that something that seemed impossible has happened. The old mirror found in the cellar is actually connected to another world! How do I put it…..even though it was seriously a typical fantasy-style setting, it is actually troublesome when it really happened since it was beyond my expectation. Well, what should I do now.

………The one thing that I can say is, this mirror will seriously sell for an amazingly high price! That was it………

◇◆◆◆◇

After graduating from high school, I had failed in looking for employment and this has continued on for nearly two years. Although, failing to get an employment doesn't mean I wasn't able to work. In the worst-case scenario, I'll just join the lowest black company, get myself tired mentally and physically then retired after. That was the plan.

After retirement, even though I might not have the motivation to work anymore and end up lazing around, I will not just stay idly either. I have come across an interesting book in the bookstore by chance entitled, [Lucrative Side Business! A monthly income of ¥300,000 from just net auctions!]

I bought the book and followed what was stated inside. I tried selling used books or second hand goods in the net auction and managed to make a profit too….well after that, was how my current lifestyle ended up as.

Fortunately, there was a weekly flea market held in the neighbourhood. For some reason I was able to purchase reasonably decent goods from the local's big shrine and was able to increase my revenue in auctions more than what I expected. Halfway through, I became fascinated by it myself and it was not an exaggeration to say that half of it now was as a part of my hobby and half of it was for money.

Initially I wasn't able to tell which items will be able to sell for higher price so my income was not to say really "lucrative". However, I was fairly accustomed to it now and was even able to save up a little.
Originally I do have interest in different kinds of tools so it might sound conceited for me to say that I might have a talent in this.

The mirror was actually found in the cellar of an old family living in the city when I approached them previously. It was placed hidden behind a Paulownia dresser and the frame seemed to be made out of Mahogany or Walnut precious wood. It has an elaborated profound design and looks like an antique. "This is an unexpected find. The problem is how much am I able to get this for cheaply." Those thoughts ran through my mind as I started counting the chickens before they are hatched.

I paced back and forth in the cellar while being lost in thoughts. As I wander around, I accidentally tripped on the old furniture, fell towards the mirror and ended up getting sucked into the mirror. Thus, that was how it started.

………..That was the reason why. It was that kind of feeling.

There still seemed to be other profitable items in the cellar. (Either those old plates or the brazier like tools. That trunk that is able to store different kinds of tools might be able to sell for unexpectedly high price too. Old toys might sell well at the same time. In a way, since old items can be sold for quite a high price to some extent, this cellar is similar to a place with a mountain of treasures.) But the first most important thing is the mirror. I left the cellar, went to the landlord and wanted to start on the negotiation to purchase just the mirror from the cellar.

“Ah, excuse me~ It’s about the things in the cellar.” [Ayase]

I called out to the landlord who was drinking tea in the living room. (An old aunty roughly at the age of 80. Based on experience, old woman is going to be easy)

“Among the items in the cellar, for the time being I hope that you will be able to concede that huge mirror. Since the size is too big, I am unable to carry other things so it will just be the mirror for now. So in terms of the price, I would like to buy it for ¥ 4,000. Will it be all right?” [Ayase]

I spoke out all at once. Even though I do feel that the price I offered was low, I already have ¥ 4,000 as standby that I can pay up immediately. It is important to carry out a deal as fast as we can by force.
“It is so before they can have a change of heart….” Was what I was thinking in mind.

“Ah~ I don’t want anything in that cellar already so you can just get anything you want. I don’t need the money.” [Old Lady]

Alright! I’m super lucky!

But in fact, this is quite a common pattern. If you go as far as to open up the cellar for someone, it is already confirmed that most of the things inside are already up for grabs.

To most cellar owners, they had already unconsciously think that anything that was placed in the cellar already belonged to the category of “Unwanted junks that clogged up space.” I did not particularly like going through stranger’s cellar as a part of my business but it was not as if they cherished those items stored there. Since to someone poor like me, it was like a mountain of treasures. It is a rich man’s nature so I might possibly end up as one too.

With that, I managed to obtain the mirror safely. I carefully loaded it into the car so it doesn’t break and carry it inside the house.

I am currently not living alone.

I am living with my parents. You might say that I am something similar to a parasite. Since I am not working……I am just paying slightly for the cost of food. I do have an older brother and sister but both had already left the house.

I might be spoiled since I was the youngest so it couldn’t be helped that I became a parasite! But once I get a job I will leave the house! I will definitely be independent once I get a job!

Chapter 002 – The other world’s residence has a European smell

Should I go? Or should I not go. That is the problem.

I groaned as I stood in front of the mirror. Even if I knew that this mirror is connected to another place, I didn’t need to force myself to go. There are no guarantees that I will be able to return and if I ended up breaking the mirror by accident, it will definitely be the end of me. Either way, I will not be able to travel back and forth between the two places anymore.

…Even so, if I were to buy this mirror without doing anything with it…..

If I did not at least check where this mirror is connected to, I am not able to sell it. Should I sell it to the potential buyers by telling them this?

“Super rare! A magic mirror that is connected to someplace! It’s for sale for ¥*100,000,000 just for now!”*

I don’t think anyone will buy it. I don’t think anyone will even take me seriously. No matter how you look at it, the mirror looks just like a normal item for display purposes only….

Thus, I decided to explore the world inside the mirror.

The mirror is connected to a mysterious room built with stone. Where the wooden door leads to outside still remains to be seen. After further thoughts, I thought I will just explore within certain range first so I will first make a quick preparation before returning.

I brought my high laced boots from the entrance and put them on. After that, I entered the other world inside the mirror with a flashlight in my hand. I didn’t feel much sensation when I move between the world. It was really strange. Anyway it is time for the exploration now. In my opinion, no matter how much people tried examining this mirror, they would not be able to understand anything at all.

I released the bolt on the door and opened the door slightly to check out the surrounding outside. I wonder if the stone room is supposed to be a cellar. On the other side of the door was a similar stone staircase leading upstairs somewhere. A ray of light shined through from a gap, rendering poor visibility of the steps ahead. To be honest, my heart was already pounding rapidly. At any rate, I could only advance from here on. In all honesty, I was quite scared.

As I climbed up the stairs timidly, I finally found myself in a western style room in this seemingly abandoned residence. The light was shining through the window, illuminating the room faintly.

The size of this place is around 3LDK I guess. A Western style residence with slight modernize look. The entire building that was built with stone looks slightly on the rough side. The huge oak table and mahogany made cupboard that were left here was as if in remembrance of the former residents' life.
(3LDK : 3 individual rooms along with a room for Living, Dining and Kitchen)

Is this place connected to France or England……….? As I thought of that, I searched around for any tools left behind here. There were furniture such as tables and cupboards but I couldn't find any smaller items left behind. I wonder if all the former residents moved leaving behind only the bigger items? Although if I could make use of all these, they might sell well in the net auction……….

Well the cupboard and table are quite nice items so I might make a considerably good amount of money if I sell them but I wasn't sure if it is a good idea to sell off someone else's furniture without permission.

Apparently the mirror seemed to be connected to a foreign country.

I decided to go try going outside. It was embarrassing to say but I was initially hoping that the mirror was actually connected to some kind of fantasy world. Though the mirror itself is already a fantasy to me.

The outside of the house looked completely desolated. It was at the level whereby even weeding the entire area will not be able to clean up the area. Anyway isn't this a tree? It was giving me the feeling of a house deep in the forest. If this were a Japanese house, it would've collapse long time ago.

Even so, this house didn't look like a place originally built in an open space in the middle of the forest, surrounded by tall broadleaf trees around. Somehow I managed to discover a path that might originally used to be a road. After walking for a while I went to the grassland.

There didn’t seem to be a sign of anyone at all. Or rather, this place gave of a feeling that no one has ever stepped into here before.
I continued on walking without feeling discouraged. After some time, I found a small village in the vicinity.

Compared to the house with mirror where I came from, the stone houses here were more modestly built. I hid myself in the forest to observe the first villagers that I found.

The majority of the farmers here are middle-aged western men. As I expected, this is a foreign country……In other words, I have arrived at some place on earth without any proof of identification and doesn’t speak the same language as them so I am basically helpless here.

So, what should I do now…..

Just as I thought of ending my exploration and returning, a woman who looked like one of the farmer’s wife on the opposite of the field cried out.

“Dear~ I have brought your lunch!”

One of the farmers stopped working after noticing her and headed straight to her without answering.

…….Umu. It was totally in Japanese.

Technically speaking, I felt like I had somehow “understood” it as Japanese instead. When the conversation reached my ear earlier, I was confirmed that it was supposed to be a different language. But how do I put it, those words seemed to be translated to Japanese instantly in my brain.

これなんて翻訳こんにゃく？
Is it some kind of deciphering konjaku?

◇◆◆◆◇

For now, I should temporarily return to the residence.

The further proof of fantasy has increased again with this automatic translation. If I accidentally called out to them by saying, “Hey there~! I am here as a tourist from Japan, HAHAHA!”

The people there might call the cops on me! I can’t remove that possibility.

If it were the western countries on earth nowadays, they might not do that but to I’ll need to avoid the worst possibilities that might happen.

Upon returning, I tried searching around the house again since I didn’t have any information about this world. There might rooms that I have not gone through yet but, is this a living room? There didn’t seem to be much to look for in this place since there is only a single table and flower stand here…..

I tried to search for books first but as expected I couldn’t any. It should be quite clear once I take a look at the characters if I found one though.

There were other furniture left behind in other rooms too. Cabinets, bed, chair, desk and a bureau. All of them are quite good products. If I were to sell all these, wouldn’t it be more than ¥100,000,000? If I sell all of these then finally the mirror, it might be good too………to the extent that I think it is really clever.

Although in general this action might be considered as stealing. Well, by the looks of it, this house was completely abandoned anyway so it should be all right. We didn’t need to be too honest in life.

However, the essential information that I need was not found.

The things that I found from this house were the box in the cellar containing the Shakespeare clothes and antique looking British furniture. Well based on all these I could tell that this is not a really modern world or it could also be that the former residence of this house has a hobby of collecting antiques.

The remaining places left that I have yet to search were only the back door and the attic. Although, in all honesty I was avoiding the attic since they are usually full of dust but I was trying to find if there was anything that could help me open the back door.

Ah, I see a spider there.

There seemed to be a spider dangling from the cobweb from the wall of the back entrance. However, this spider……the size of its body seems to be roughly 10 centimeters in length and it has 12 legs. If I include the legs, the entire body should be about 25 centimeters. It is sitting quietly in the middle of the web now but……..it is huge.

If someone who had a phobia of spider sees this, they will definitely faint.

I nervously snapped the photo of the spider using my phone's camera and returned to the cellar with the mirror so I could go back to my own room.

Based on the image of the spider taken with my cell phone, I looked up online (Google) to search on the information about it. The first species found, ***Theraphosa blondi*** (TL: also called Goliath birdeater) has an almost similar size but this was not it. At the first place it was not even a ground spider. The spider earlier seemed to be some kind of silk spider.

Actually in the first place, there are no spiders in this world with 12 legs! *(TN: For a moment then I have forgotten how many legs a spider has)*

In order to settle myself down, I brought a coffee from the kitchen and took a breather. The information from the internet are not always accurate but with this, one of the possibility has disappeared. For the time being I understood that, that place is "not somewhere on earth currently". It could be the earth from the past or a completely different world.

The spider that couldn't be found from google search earlier could be an extinct species. That said, in addition to that automatic translation experience earlier, there could be a high possibility that it is a completely different world as well. From now on, it should be a good idea for me to start acting like one of the residence from the other world.

Although, in other words, there could be a possibility that a monster might come out. Or there could even be magic. Or the Inquisition might hang and burn me at stake.

Even if I wander around in carefree manner, it wouldn't be dangerous I think…..

Chapter 003 – The smell of cosplay from the other world

My cowardice was inherited from my parents. I knew that I am cowardly even when I was a child.

That was why, once I have obtained enough information on the other world, I decided to sell the mirror off. I am seriously scared of the other world. Even if it is a world from the past, it is frightening too.

To put it bluntly, it is too much for me. I am a professional NEET who hasn’t been in social contact with people for a long time. Moreover, I am not someone who is really young now.

Actually, I was thinking of advertising the「Privilege to travel to other world」in the net for 1 million yen to other younger people before selling the mirror. If they can’t go then the money will not be received and it will be gone like the wind.

If I send 300 people there then there will be 300 mil yen in total. Uhhauha.

Then if I sell off each mirror along with the know-how book ostensibly, I could say good bye to all the troubles from the other world and also get a lot of money from this so it’s killing two birds with one stone. If one can be sold at 700 mil yen, it will total up to 1 billion yen! It is possible to live without working!!

That said, this plan is still up in the air for now. I need more information in order to make this work.

Well in the end I still need to gather slightly more data about the mirror. Once I enter the mirror world again, I decided to bring along the Shakespeare clothing with me for usage. By the way, can I bring the items from that world here?

……..Normally it should be possible to bring the items from there to this world.

I had thought that there might be a possibility that I couldn’t bring them back but otherwise I could bring back all the furniture from that house. It seemed to have become a war fund now. Fuhihi.

I wonder how many years have these clothes been kept fertilized in the treasure box now. Seriously I need to get a grip of myself. The size of that clothes is probably a little small but I was able to put them on without any problem.

However…….this is embarrassing. The feelings were indescribable. There are fluttering decorations on the silk clothes in addition to the embroidered vest. The fabric is slightly too lustering and the pants is faintly glossy too. I wonder why the overall look appears really lustrous.

It looks embarrassingly like a cosplay but I convinced myself that this is necessary in order to blend into this world. (come to think of it, I have a feeling the farmer has a similar appearance too) Well, it was a clothing at my own expense. There are no such things as jersey or sweatshirt here so when I think about it, it became natural.

Tools that are essential to be carried along in a bag are weapons that can be used for self-defense in case of emergency (several self-made knives). I placed them inside the bag, put on my high laced boots and entered the mirror.

Upon exiting the residence, I suddenly realized it. Come to think of it, I haven't given a thought about the time.

It is close to around 10am in Japan now but it is not necessarily the same here. If I went to a completely unknown place once the sun has set, there will be a risk of dying there.

In the effort to ascertain the height of the day, I was stunned by the thing that met my sight.

Aa……the「information on this world」was available at such a place. Why didn't I notice it?

There are two moons in the sky even though it is day time.

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The sun is currently high in sky. I wasn't really sure about the current time of the day but for the time being I didn't need to worry about the sun setting anytime soon. This is definitely a different world.

There shouldn't be any history on the existence of two moons on earth.

I passed through the woods in front residence and reached the grassland. It was different than when I last came. It is definitely another world in my opinion. I could see various types of trees that I have never seen mixed in together in the forest. (An entirely different world's species? That couldn't have been possible)

—That reminds me, on Galapagos Islands, in order to prevent the tourists from bringing in seeds from another area, the sole of the shoes must be washed before going ashore. Apart from the promenade, the management does not allow them to walk on anywhere else without exceptions.

Although I didn't particularly care about it, if I kept going back and forth between the two different world, there might be unexpected changes to the nature if I didn't pay attention to some extent. If I brought one insect out of this place to the other side, the insect on the opposite side might be attacked to extinction. That is one probability that I couldn't refute.

I thought about it as I walked.

Gasa Gasa~ [sfx:]

A sound coming from a bush on the opposite side roughly 50 meter from here could be heard, making me stand on guard.

An unshaven person who looks like a wild type of hunter came out.
He was dragging out a boar like creature that seemed to have been just killed.

Chapter 004 – The smell of RPG from the other world

“Dddou ddoudo ddoudo ddou”

This is bad. My heart wasn’t prepared at all. I wanted to try saying,「Good afternoon」but I was being scared to death!

“What’s wrong? What are you doing at a place like this?” [hunter]

The hunter asked me suspiciously.

“G-G-Good afternoon” [Ayase]

I was finally able to barely greet him as usual.

The hunter looks like he is in his late mid-thirties with brown hair and stubbly beard nicely in the middle. A bow was hung on his shoulder and an oversized machete on his waist. He was clad in Matagi fur clothing. His pair of light brown was staring at me strongly. His stare was kind of scary.

It couldn’t be helped since I returned his question with a greeting…..! I-If I don’t make the first contact somehow…..! A-Anyway I should just twist my words.

“Ee~ atto, well that is, h-how do I put it, I don’t even know it myself why I am here. How should I……..when I realized it I was already in the forest……I can’t seem to remember my past……to be more exact I seem to have lost my memory!” [Ayase]

I tried going with the memory loss setting.

Well this was the setting that I came up with from the beginning since I couldn’t come up with any other good idea. However, when I took a look at the hunter’s dumbfounded facial expression, could it be that my plan has failed? I have no choice but to carry on.

“Memory loss is it……..From your look, you must be quite young……Oi, do you remember at least your name?” [hunter]

“…….I remember my name and age. Jirou Ayase. 21 years old.” [Ayase]

When I answered so, he placed his hand on his chin as if in deep thoughts. In the end he seemed to have grasp something by himself and replied “Um” with a nod.

“I see. I’m not sure why you lost your memory but…….It could probably be an inland group escape. There are no embroidered vest or shirt that looks like yours around here in this neighborhood…..Although you appear too neat to look like an escapee from the military police…..” [hunter]

“……Etto, is there a factor in being chased by the military police?” [Ayase]

I couldn’t ignore those words so I became impatient.

Eh? Do military police seriously exist here…..? If I had wished that village [Konyanyachiwa] in a carefree manner previously, was there a possibility that I might end up getting arrested?

“Aa, if you escaped from the inland you will either be captured by the military police and be forced to return to your own land or you might be made into slave labor upon request. Well, most of the escapees usually have people here co-operating with them so they will be able to merge in well……A half-assed escapee who appears in that getup like you is rare. IN-CI-DEN-TA-LLY the reward for handing in the escapees to the military police is 3 silver coins.” [hunter]

The hunter grinned as he said that. It’s not IN-CI-DEN-TA-LLY, it’s incidentally!

Just as I thought that coming to this world in this clothes was the right thing, I’ll seriously end up becoming a slave in just 5 seconds or could this be some kind of joke!!

If I knew this would happen, I should’ve come in my own clothes……If this beefy hunter hand me over to the military police, I will start living the ‘fun’ life as a slave in the other world instead………

I might have a really desperate look on my face currently. That hunter who seemed to be having fun watching my reaction there laughed heartily and shook his hand repeatedly.

“My bad my bad. I’m just joking. Well, the 3 silver coins reward is true but handing you over to the military police is a separate matter. Meeting you here must be the guidance of Le Baraka (ル・バラカ) ” [hunter]

"……Thank you very much……..Iyaa, it was seriously bad for my heart……" [Ayase]

"Well, I will be going back home now to disassemble this guy. What will you do? If you're coming along then help me carry him." [hunter]

As he said that, the hunter started walking in the opposite direction of the village while dragging the boar. What I can do now is only one thing. I can only depend on the hunter now and help him carry the boar.

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The hunter's house is situated roughly 1km away from the village on top of a small hill. It is basically the similar stone house as the ones in the village. The house is surrounded by a small field and how do I put it, it seems to be enveloped by a happy presence. It is that kind of house.

I was feeling amazed there since I hadn't expected this beefy hunter to have that kind of interest. As I helped to carry the boar together, I can feel an atmosphere of an idyll lifestyle from the house. When I saw a lady there who looked like the hunter's wife, for the time being it gave me a peace of mind. It is such a straight life.

The lady who might be his wife is–somehow it seems like there are only two people staying here–as expected that lady IS his wife. She is a red haired sensual beauty who looks so much younger than the hunter. Though not as tall as the hunter, she appears to be quite tall too. Both of them somehow look like a pair of hand-to hand combatant husband and wife.

While the hunter is dismantling the wild boar, his wife explained to me various things about this world.

First, for the [escapees from the inland], there were various reasons found.

At present, this place is an outskirt area under Erishe, a free city which is currently Hanouku Empire's second territory. A free city is a special place in the empire so apart from Erishe, there are only two other places that were stipulated. It seems that trading with other countries is only allowed in those cities. Therefore, they are livelier compared to the other imperial cities and the goods are also in abundant. However if restrictions are not applied, then a huge number of people will just come flocking to this city from the other empires. So that was how the repatriation and enslavement topic emerged. In truth I might be in an actually dangerous place. This hunter…

The hunter's name is Shello Roth [シェロー・ロート]. While he was hunting in this area, he has the job to monitor and get rid of the monsters that escape from the forest. It was explained energetically that he was a mercenary before becoming a hunter (それなりにブイブイ言わせてたそうで). The wife, Rebecca [レベッカ] was also from the same mercenary group similar to her husband. It's definitely a different world's quality when you look at it. The wife's height is roughly around 180cm I guess………The hunter's height is likely close to 190cm…..

There are basically no monsters in this area. Nevertheless the forest will suddenly be "infested" with them and they will usually head towards places with people. That was why it is important to keep this linear route between the village and the forest under constant surveillance……..that was the details explained to me but it was difficult to understand anything. Infested? *(TN: referring to the part about the monsters)*

"Monsters are not living beings with flesh and blood. There are sometimes too much demon elements collecting at certain places in the forest, so they appear. Then, they will go straight to humans with strong magical power and attack them. Those are what we have been finishing off. Well, this isn't such a big deal for someone like him so you didn't need to worry about it." [Rebecca]

"Aa, no, it wasn't that I was worried about that. However where do monsters usually "infest"? " [Ayase]

"They will normally appear in the dungeon. Then places where dragon lives also has dense demon element so monsters tend to appear easily. Well, dungeon has barriers in the exit and entrance so the monsters doesn't escape from the inside and places where dragons live are usually far from human dwellings too. Most of the time common people have very few opportunities to see a monster." [Rebecca]

Dungeon ktkr.
[TN: "kita kore" (来たこれ), lit. "it came!"]

It is indescribably an orthodox RPG world. The definition of monsters was slightly out of my expectation and doesn’t appear often so it doesn’t seem likely to be attacked by them usually.

–Though when I think about it, could it be that demon beasts or sub-human clan are considered as『wild animal』, so they could be dangerous since they are staying quite far from where human lives?…… Especially the stories on sub-human clan tormenting humans that they brought back, iya~ my chastity is in danger in many ways in this other world. It’s troublesome isn’t it! (参っちゃいますね)

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Shello-san returned after dismantling the boar then Rebecca followed him out after in order to help him (since it is necessary to hang the wild boar temporarily before skinning it). At that moment I decided to inspect the room quietly to check out their lifestyle. The civilization here doesn’t seem advance so I am really interested in the tools that they are using.

Basically, there are many wooden tools, the decorative dishes lined up against the wall seemed to be made of porcelain and the cutleries are silvers. Well, the dishes that were frequently used are not all made from porcelain (hard paste porcelain) but ceramics instead. Porcelains should probably be high quality items here. Unexpectedly, the cutleries are all silver (I think). They shouldn’t be stainless steel possibly.

The kitchen’s furnace type is definitely not with gas and charcoal seems to be used as fuel. Right now I am putting out the fire.

Shello-san’s weapons and large sword (Claymore) that appeared to be frequently used were placed leaning against the wall. As I expected, it felt like I will be violating a rule if I touch them without permission so I held myself back. Next to the wall, I caught sight of a decorative dagger on display and my eyes ended up being glued to it.

The blade couldn’t be seen since it is inside the scabbard. However, the ebony scabbard inside that sheath that twists in an exquisite way is inlaid with a geometric design of mother-of-pearl. The hilt of the sword, the edge, and pommel are engraved with beautiful pale metal carvings. The handle seems to be made of the same material as the spiral shaped scabbard as well as ebony and the sheath looks really beautiful too.

Just by looking at it in a glance I could tell that it is an amazing item. Even though the entire article is in black, it gave off a calming presence and something that felt like a magical aura could be sense rising, claiming its presence.

No matter what, I want to see the blade.

It seems like Shello-san and Rebecca-san are still ‘wrestling’ with the wild boar so it will just be for a moment, just a little moment…….I picked up the dagger while muttering and pulled out the sheath.

The blade that was shining dully is a Damascus steel with a double edge design. There seem to be something like rune characters driven in the blade. (Anyway they are symbols that I couldn’t understand)

….Un. It is seriously cool. No question about it.
—-This is bad. Honestly I really want this.

It has been a long time since I last seen an item that stimulated my greed so much. If I put this up in the net, it will definitely enter the Hall of Fame.

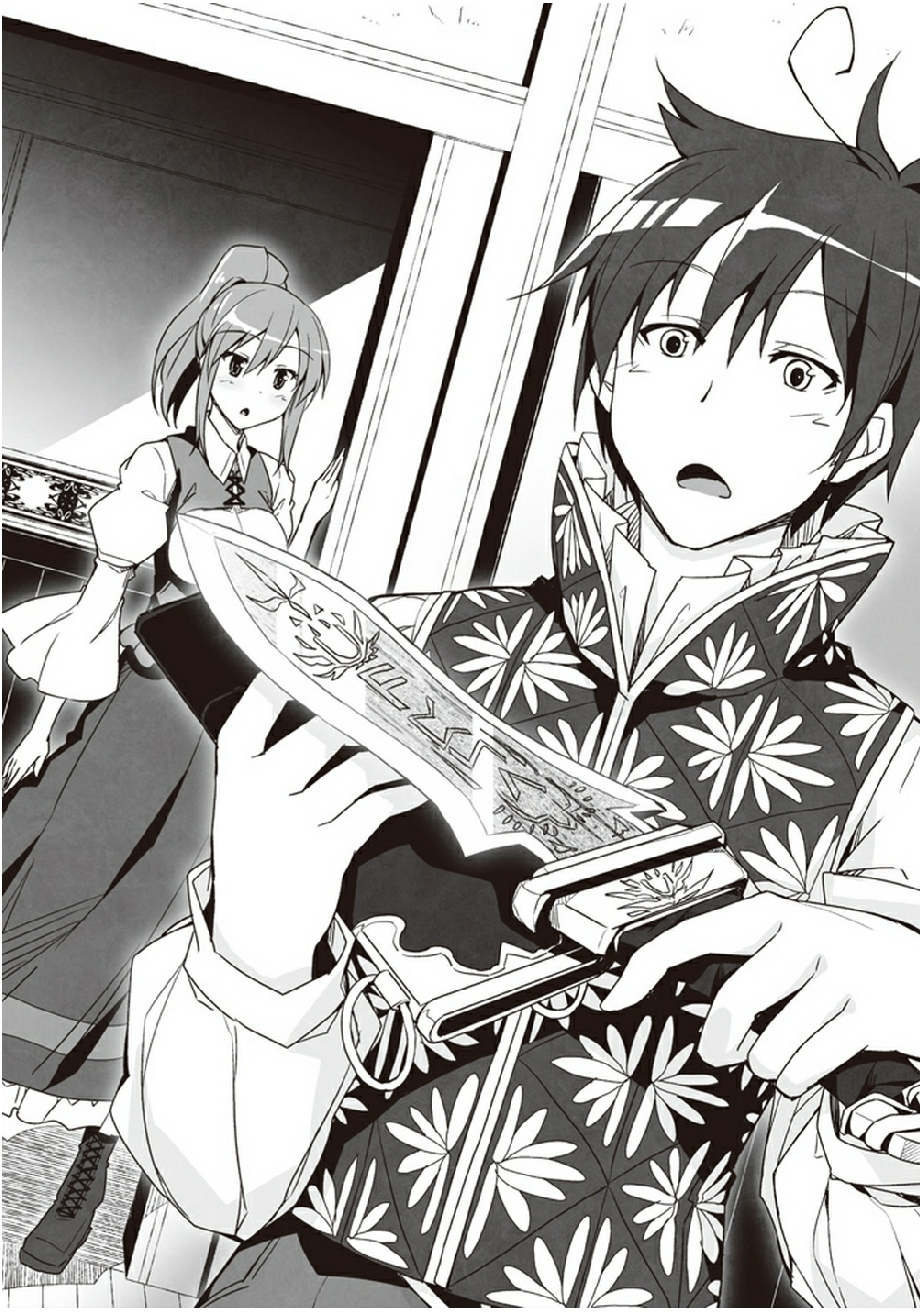
That being said, if there are usually items like this here, could I obtain other similar items as well if everything goes well? This might be a short sword but also a long sword. There are amazing things like this as well, isn’t it?

This is bad. I wasn’t planning to get myself involved too much with this other world but if there are treasures like this here, I started thinking that it wouldn’t be bad if I push myself a little. My wish is beginning! To be frank, if this is Japan, isn’t this an important cultural asset class? Uo-! What should I do, what should I do!

Uo~on!

“….Are you interested in that?”

“~Tsu！” [Ayase]



I jumped up when I suddenly heard a voice. I was being too absorbed in it that

I didn’t realize that Rebecca-san has returned.

“….etto, yes, I’m sorry for touching it without permission…..I’ve never seen such a cool looking sword before. [Ayase]

“Fufufu, despite losing your memory you still understand it?” [Rebecca]

“…….(Acha-)” [Ayase] (TN: Ayase’s thoughts)

Shit, I failed! Was what I thought but Rebecca-san didn’t seem to mind it and continued on.

“That item was actually bestowed to the leader by the Emperor when the leader was working as a mercenary. After leader died, I received it as a keepsake. It’s actually not an item I will use so I kept it as a decoration. It’s quite nice right?” [Rebecca]

“Yes……it’s not that my memory came back but, I was somehow drawn to this sword……it might have been that my previous work was related to these things.” [Ayase]

“Work? –by the way what is Jirou-kun’s vocation? ” [Rebecca]

“…….Vocation? Is it? ” [Ayase]

“You received the blessings right? For your vocation” [Rebecca]

……….I have been a NEET for about two years……….
Anyway what is a vocation? In the first place, why did the subject about work suddenly pop up? Was the overflowing scent of NEET coming from me too overpowering…..?

“……..I’m sorry, but vocation? You might have known that I actually lost my memory already….and I am not so sure about the blessing you meant…….. ” [Ayase]

“Vocation is something you have seen in mind after you received your blessings and prayed to God. This『vocation, vocation, vocation….』you see” [Rebecca]

What a fluffy kind of description…….I don’t even know what’s she was talking about.

In the first place, I have not received something like a blessing so I have not seen anything. So I tried covering it up by saying “Impossible. I have not received any blessings”

“U~n? Jirou-kun a merchant apprentice isn’t it? There are times when you need to go on training in order to aim for your vocation……Well, anyway tomorrow you should try getting yourself blessed. Since you’ll be living in Erishe from now on, you’ll need a vocation for yourself.” [Rebecca]

“I’m actually not familiar what the blessing is at the moment. How does it go?” [Ayase]

“*[Getting the blessings to obtain a vocation].* The Great spirit, Le Baraka will bestow a blessing. Then you’ll finally wake up to your true calling.” [Rebecca]

Receiving a blessing to obtain a vocation…is it. I kinda get it and I don’t really get it at the same time. But if it’s tomorrow then that means I will be staying here today. I’ve come here without leaving any message at home though……..

“Anyway you’ll be staying over here tonight alright?” [Rebecca]

“Y-Yes! Thank you very much! I’ll be in your care today!” [Ayase]

I suddenly recalled this line from a certain RPG, 「A brat like you should just stay over tonight」 so I replied back in desperation.

Note: If you want to know how Shello and Rebecca look like, they are in one or two of the header images above the page

Chapter 005 – The other world’s city has the smell of Mediterranean Sea

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As if I was emerging slowly from somewhere deep, I regained my consciousness.

……Well, this is what commonly happens whenever I wake up in the morning. Even though it was an unfamiliar bed, I had slept surprisingly well. How do I put it, I was tired even though I had gone to bed right away after dinner yesterday.

But last night’s dinner was quite wild….

When Shello-san said, “I’ll be treating you today” last night, I had thought that I was really lucky at that time but what was served for dinner was the wild boar’s liver. The staple food were potatoes and the side dishes were beans. In addition, there was even Shello-san’s hand-baked wild boar steak.

Naturally the liver was served raw, seasoned with only rock salt. Well, it has quite a wild flavor but otherwise it was actually tasty. It tasted fresh.

However, the wild boar steak was slightly too wild so it might be too much for someone like me who have been brought up in the city……. Although the taste was thick, the smell was also just as thick….. It was not to the extent of inedible and I could still cheat through it by eating it with spices instead……was what I thought but spices are luxurious items.

Then herbs should be fine too but since I am being treated for free at someone else’s house, I couldn’t say anything. In the end, being the youngest in the family and the only thing I was good at said, “It was extremely delicious!” and ate the food. It was quite filling to my stomach!

That said, it was my first meal in the other world. I was initially slightly worried on what I should do if there was a big difference to the taste but apart from the wild flavor, the basis of the food was still the same so I was relieved.

I will try supplying them with miso the next time. Although I don’t know if it will suit the other world’s taste buds.

—-Well then, I was thinking that I was caught up in a strange development unexpectedly and I ended up having to stay overnight in the other world but, what should I do now…..I did give it a thought yesterday before going to sleep but—-

First of all…
If I were to go as I originally planned, after I have collected enough information on this world, I was planning to sell the "Right to travel to the other world". However, considering this country's situation, honestly……..I realized that it was quite impossible.
That is because if they are suspected as an escapee from the inland, they might get arrested by the military police. As expected I do not want to sell the other world to someone just so they will end up getting caught.

Secondly.
The example relating to the dagger incident.
With an item of that kind of quality, if I entered it playfully in Japan's auction, I can guarantee that I could get anything that I want that I previously couldn't get. Well, I don't think that there are items that are so easily obtained in this world (since she said that it was a gift bestowed by the emperor), but if I hand it over to a mercenary as a reward, there will be no goods that will absolutely be unavailable either.
Although it's a rarely seen treasure, it became slightly surprising halfway through that I could only be agasp…. (After that I had asked her to let me see it for another hour yesterday)

Thirdly.
It is likely to be profitable if I take an item from this other world and bring it back to Japan to put it up in net auction. Likewise, if I bring something from Japan to here, it might bring in even more profit. Another example would be the lack of spice in last night's dinner, so there are likely an infinite number of things to sell here.

At the same time, I had heard it from Shello-san indirectly yesterday. The currency for this world are copper coins, silver coins and gold coins. They're gold coins you know, gold coins. If I bring them back to Japan as it is, I might be able to exchange it for cash directly too! At the moment the price of gold is 4000 yen per gram.

Honestly, in the beginning I felt that it was obviously stupid to look for treasures in the flea market but quite a good business has come out from this.

Fourthly.
Well, this point is somewhat a derivation from the third point. To obtain more profit efficiently, after getting richer, I could buy this and that then open a shop and more or start a company and rise up as a president! There are so many possibilities!
Although in reality I didn't want to work at all…….I will feel defeated once I started working, to me.

Aa, or should I just open up a hobby shop at full throttle? That would be good too. I might be able to run a business in this other world if I disregard the profit. De~yufu

Fifthly.
As expected I want to make a girlfriend in this other world. My chest got a little hot…
Since this is a different world, their sense of value might be different so a NEET like me might be able to be popular here too! Although for example, if a woman without single ounce of modesty approaches me then I'll pass on it! The numbers of years without girlfriend = the years of my virgin life!

…….The main subject might have been slightly derailed. But this is also a comparatively important problem.

Sixthly.
I am curious about it. The blessing.
Simply what kind of vocation do I have? I am seriously curious about it. That is because I am just a neo-NEET in reality!!
Should I just try receiving one? I'll try the blessing of the other world!

"Should I just try receiving one? I'll try the blessing of the other world!" [Ayase]

"Nn? Did you say something Jirou?" [Shello]

Uwaa~, I accidentally let it slipped out of my mouth.

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From now on, how should I consult Shello-san as someone who is experiencing [memory loss]? There are a lot of things that I wanted to do but it will be strange for someone with memory loss to be aggressive in their activity all of the sudden.

At that time if I say, “Apparently I seem to be aware of it myself that I have done something related to a merchant before. I have, haven’t I? Maybe?”

I could say that in a roundabout and ambiguous manner, then get blessed in the temple first and depending on the vocation received there, I could get introduced to a corresponding guild successfully.

Nonetheless I really appreciate that Shello-san seemed to be a fairly good person. As he had said, if he comes across someone who is in trouble, it is due to the guidance of Le Baraka so they should follow through with the guidance or something like that. In short, it was something similar to their religious point of view but it could also be that Shello-san is an exceptionally good person himself. At first glance, he might look like a bandit ossan but we shouldn’t judge someone just from their appearance.

That is why, the three of us; Shello-san, Rebecca-san and I headed towards Erishe city. We have loaded the wild boar’s meat and hide obtained yesterday onto a packhorse as we went there by foot. We went out onto the road in front of the village and arrived in Erishe’s city in approximately 2 hours’ travel from Shello-san’s house.

Erishe is surrounded by 2 meters castle walls (if someone is really determined to climb it, they can climb across it easily). The brick houses could also be seen here and the sequence of red roofs in sight are really beautiful. There is a guard standing at the entrance but the gate is wide opened most of the time and people can enter and leave at their will.

It was fairly loose than what I had imagined.

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It is certainly a really vibrant city.

Rather than another world, I was attacked by a feeling that I have reached Italy or other similar foreign country instead. But, when I took a closer look at the city, I could see a man with robe who looked like a magician, a beast girl with car ears and a tail (slightly thick haired), someone in full metal plate with a spear on shoulder, a short stubbly uncle (a dwarf?) in a group, anyway a variety of people. Once again I begin to recognize that this is indeed a different world as expected. In terms of numbers, the ratio of humans is higher compared to the rest. Although, be it a different world beings or sub-humans, there are still quite a high number of non-human race here.

Before going to the temple, we were going to sell the meat and skin first so I will be accompanying them. Shello-san carried the meat and hide on his shoulder and entered the building that seemed to be where the purchasing is taking place leaving me and Rebecca-san outside. I anxiously tried asking Rebecca-san.

“How much will that much of meat and hide sell for?” [Ayase]

“Nn~ I think at most we would be able to get 3 silver coins, hopefully. Although that much is enough to feed us for half a month already so it is not really bad. The numbers of hunters have decrease as of recently so there might be a possibility that the price has increase a little.” [Rebecca]

…………3 silver coins is enough for half month of food so I wonder if the value of 1 silver coin = 10,000 yen? No, I might be comparing it too much to Japan’s money value…..

“Is 10 silver coins equivalent to 1 gold coin? And 10 copper coins equivalent to 1 silver coin?” [Ayase]

“It’s accurate in terms of the gold but it is a little different for the copper coins. 1 silver coins will be the same as 10 white copper coin though. Then for bronze coins. 10 bronze coins can be exchanged for 1 white copper coin.” [Rebecca]

As she explained, she showed me a white copper coin and bronze coin. A White copper coin seriously looks like a worn out 500 yen coin while a bronze coin looks like a small 1 cent coin.

U~n, for the time being I am slightly relieved by a little. But there is still a lot that I have yet to know. I felt bad for Rebecca-san but I will have to ask various questions.

“Come to think of it, I don’t know the unit of money here. So in the case of 1 silver coin, 4 white copper coins and 7 bronze coins, will it be roughly 147 El somehow?” [Ayase]

“O-, Jirou-kun is good at money calculation aren’t you? As I have expected, aren’t you some kind of merchant’s apprentice? Because in general we wouldn’t be using so much calculation.” [Rebecca]

“Eh? Then how did you all do it?” [Ayase]

“Just like how it is. 1 silver coin, 4 white copper coins and 7 bronze coins. Can’t you count it as it is already?” [Rebecca]

U~n? Was it such a difficult calculation? I was taught that the currency here is called [El]. So if 1 silver coin = 100 El, when you tell this to kindergarten students, wouldn’t they be able to understand it too?

TL Note:
1 Silver coin = 100 El
1 White Copper coin = 10 El
1 Bronze coin = 1 El

Should I say that arithmetic is not really or not well developed here at all? Will the other world people be alright? They might be easily swindled at this rate!

“But Rebecca-san understands how to do it right? The calculation.” [Ayase]

“That was because I have done the calculation for the rewards to the members when I was in the mercenary group last time. I could only do simple things but I’m good at money calculation you know?” [Rebecca]

I see. I am convinced.

Well, my last education was only at high school level as well so I’m not that good at maths myself. Moreover, among the three important *[Reading, Writing, Arithmetic]*, reading and writing is completely out for me as someone not from this world!

Meanwhile Shello-san came back from the purchasing place while grasping 3 silver coins in his hand. They would like to go buy some necessities later on with this money but before that, they will be bringing me to the temple first.

“Then let’s go to the temple to receive the blessings!” [Shello]

It feels pretty trivial.

Chapter 006 – The other world's temple has the smell of fairies

"Sarudinera!"

The temple was built in front of the central square of the city. It is reasonably large building—It looks more like a church than a temple—There are relief symbols of great spirits decorated at the entrance (cattle, snake, and bird's motif are mysteriously arranged in the shape of a "U"). As soon as we stepped into the entrance, a woman who appeared to be a priestess greeted upon noticing us.

"Sarudinera! It's been a long time, Shello, Rebecca!"

The priestess greeted Shello-san and Rebecca-san in a friendly manner.

……..However, I am currently visiting for a much more important matter. I would need to straightened my thoughts on this matter first.

The priestess was a young slender woman wearing spacious bright green robe. On top of the robe is an elaborated design of Kazura *(TL: Jasmine)* in red, blue, white and green color.
Crystal clear shining yellowish brown (blonde) hair that reached her waist. Long narrow eyes, skin as white as porcelain and green pupil……. and, distinctive long pointed ears…..

…….Please don't say it everyone!
At the time when I saw dwarves and human beast walking down the street, I have always been thinking that this might be a possibility!
What a different world. It seems like a fantasy world no matter how you look at it! If that is the case, then this is a proper conclusion.

In other words, that priestess is, the ears that are slightly long, if I were to say please let me nibble on those pointed ears of the priestess! *(TL: I think his head is slightly broken at this point)*

It's an elf! It's unmistakably an elf!!
I-I-I-It was in my dream, e-e-elf has become a reality! I am finally able to obtain it

at last! Elf country is within my grasp! U ~oooooooooooooooooooooooo! ! ! !

I love Deedlit very much!! (俺ディードｏｯトとか大好きなんだよ！ ！)

(TL: Unconfirmed but it should be Elf Deedlit from Record of Lodoss. Thanks Lagrange!)

A e se drftgy Fujiko l po;

—-PLEASE STAND BY—-

“Then will that person be the one who will be receiving the blessing?”

“Aa, yes. His name is Jirou. I’ll be counting on you.” [Shello]

“What are you fidgeting there for, Jirou? Is Priestess-sama’s type your preference?” [Shello]

“Hahaha. Despite her look, Priestess-sama might be even older than your mother you know, possibly. To begin with, she’s been like this ever since I got my blessing when I was still a brat, te-that hurts!” [Shello]

Upon mentioning the age, the elf Priestess-sama pulled Shello-san’s ear.
I would’ve thought that an elf was a tribe that didn’t care about age though it doesn’t appear to be true. It’s so moe.

“Well so Jirou-san, you don’t have to be so nervous. It’ll be all right. I’ll be *g-e-n-t-l-e*.”

However, this elf seemed to be in high spirits. She doesn’t give off a feeling of either sage of a forest or an isolated race at all.

Her height is quite short and cute so it’s advantageous for me JK. *(TL: Author is trying to say JK/Just kidding I think)*

“Jokes aside, should we start now? Then Jirou-san, please head to the altar.”

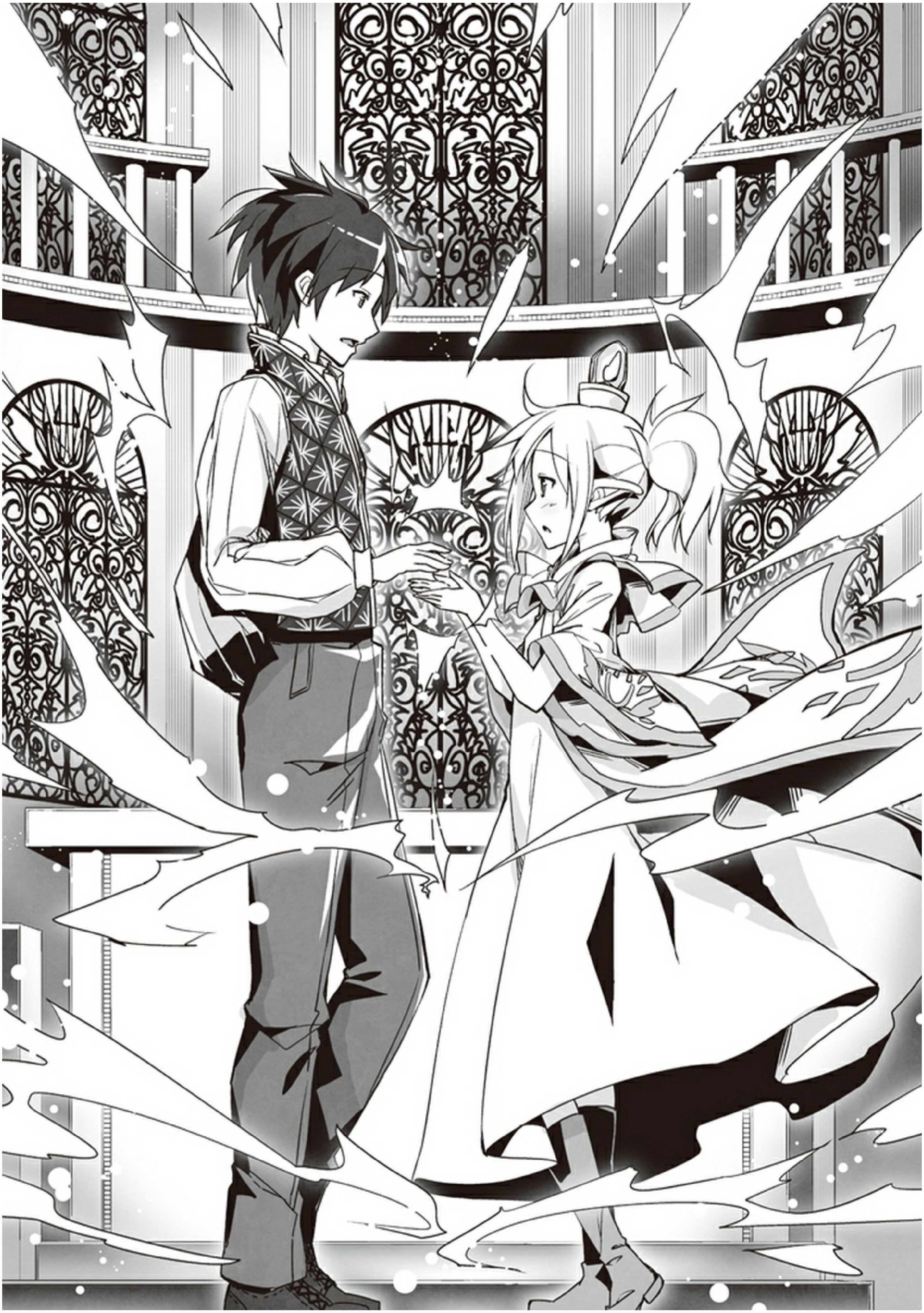
I was invited up a slightly tall altar. I stood next to the cute elf Priestess-chan (estimated age around 50 years old). I was only slightly taller than that Priestess-chan. I could smell a sweet honey like smell coming from her. That is too poisonous for a 21-year-old virgin like me, Priestess-chan.

As a variation of flowery blossoming delusions were going through my mind, the Priestess-sama closed her eyes and started casting something like a spell. Apparently, the blessing ritual seemed to be starting.

When she finished chanting a spell, she held out both “hands” to me. I took the hands while flustering.

When she asked for my name, age and gender, I obediently answered, “Jirou Ayase, 21 years old, male.”

For a split second, both my hands seemed to be assaulted with intense heat and light suddenly enveloped the area but it stopped instantly.



The Priestess breathed out in relief as she said.

“Congratulations. Le Baraka has recognized you as a son of the spirits now and bestowed you a blessing. From now on the great spirit will watch over you at any time, will help you and will give you guidance. You will definitely have a successful fruitful life.”

“T-Thank you very much?” [Ayase]

…I’m troubled. Has the blessing end in such a short time? I had to admit that there were no changes at all.

I had a feeling that nothing changed even after I received the blessing.

As expected is the other world’s people different?

“Jirou, so how was it? What is the vocation?” [Shello]

“Regardless of how many times I watch this, it’s still as exciting!” [Rebecca]

Shello-san and the rest seemed to be questioning on the vocation quickly.

Iya but, there were no changes at all. What is going on.

“Don’t be so impatient, Shello and Becky. He might not know how to read the vocation yet….. Jirou-san. Concentrate. Try praying『Vocation, Vocation, Vocation….』. With that you will be able to see your own vocation. Although it might take a long time initially, you will get used to it soon. Once you get used to it, you will be able to “pull it out” immediately.”

(TL: Becky = Rebecca)

It’s another vague explanation again. Is this relating to Rebecca-san’s explanation earlier?

But, there was no other ways than to give this a try.

“Vocation, vocation, vocation……” [Ayase]

As I prayed, something translucent that looked like a lithograph appeared right in front of my eyes. Although I was surprised when a board popped out unexpectedly, the diagonal content on it was within my expectation.

These are what was on the board.

【Given Name】

-Jirou Ayase

【Age】

-21-years-old

【Gender】

-Male

【Race】

-Human

【Vocation】

-Swordsman
-Magician
-Blacksmith
-Craftsman
-Swindler
-Merchant
-Cook
-Jewellery Scholar

【Inherent Job】

-Wise man of the other world (The Library)
<skill> Trip to another world (The Journey)
<skill> Principle of universe (The Principle)
<skill> The mirror of truth (The Judgement)

【Guidance of Baraka】

・Return the gratitude to the hunter 0/2
・Try using the mirror of truth 0/1

Vocation tsu~! Moreover, it seemed like there are pretty great inherent jobs too…
On top of that, Guidance of Baraka…. Could this possibly be, not it could actually be something like a "Quest" in RPG? It was up to me to progress it carefully. For some reason they are all in Japanese.

Shello-san and Rebecca-san have excited looks on their faces. How about the Priestess-sama who is showing a cute face too? I tilted my head, puzzled. What is with this cute creature. If I were a Don Juan, I will definitely hit on her 20 times.

"Etto, I wonder if these vocations are alright for me. There are quite a lot though…. Swordsman, magician, blacksmith, craftsman, swindler, merchant, cook, jewellery scholar….." [Ayase]

"Ho-Hold on a moment, Jirou. What do you mean by a lot? Were all those you mentioned earlier your vocations??" [Shello]

Rebecca-san was listening with a perplex face and there were quite a number of ???? above Shello-san's head. Priestess-sama asked me a question with a complicated expression.

"Jirou-san……were all the eight mentioned earlier your vocation?"

"Etto, yes. 8 of them……..the word [Vocation] was displayed there so there was no doubt about it though…." [Ayase]

"Is that so……First of all, there will usually only be one vocation for each person. Sometimes we do have people who has more than one vocation but so far it's only 1 out of 30 people who have 2 vocations, 1 out of 100 people who have 3 vocations and 1 out of 1000 people who have 4 vocations….. Not to mention, there were no records of people having 8 vocations. Even the [Phantom of Archmage] has only 6 vocations……Aa"

The priestess-chan's pupils shined as she suddenly recalled on something. What is it, what is it. Please don't come so close all of the sudden. My virgin heart will not able to take it!

"By chance…did you obtain [Inherent job] too?"

So….what should I do.

Chapter 007 – The smell of other world's vocation cheat

"Inherent job…Is it? There is no inherent job though." (Ayase)
(TL: The 'inherent jobs' were initially in kanji but he said it in hiragana this time)

I deceived her.
I don't really want to lie to the cute elf-chan but the title [Wise man of the other world] would be too suspicious. The word "other world" would be too straight too.
I strongly endured it when the elf who hugged me parted unwillingly with a disappointed look but I shot her a question instead.

"Is Inherent job a separated thing from vocation?" [Ayase]

It was a question that was asked on purpose but she replied back without any doubts. Among the people who have obtained 4 or more vocations, there are people who also obtain "Inherent job" along with the vocations. The others that Elf-chan knew about were『Malice of the Swamp (The Venom)』,『The Phantom Mage (The Mirage)』and『Shadow (The Silhouette)』. The three of them. Among them, the Phantom Mage is one of a celebrity who received the blessing more than 100 years ago. For some reason Malice of the Swamp and Shadow felt more like villains from old stories that used to be told by the people in the olden days and ended up becoming a legend today.

"Once obtaining an inherent job, the person will receive a special skill that can only be used by that person. The『Phantom of the Archmage』has one of that special skill too. There was a story that the phantom stopped an army of a thousand soldiers with just that skill alone. The name of the skill wasn't known since it wasn't handed down though……"

I……don't only have one though. I have three of them…the skills.

As I had expected it was a good idea to keep this a secret. The skills didn't seem to have the power to stop a thousand soldiers but it is not mistaken that I will definitely draw strange attention to myself. Iya, I don't mind the attention of the elf-chan but what I didn't want is the strange gazes by the general public. Apart from going out to buy necessities, I was mostly holed up in the house so I am quite weak to people's gaze.

The inherent job seems to be usually regarded as "I see this is indeed an amazing thing" so in exchange I tried prying more about it in interest.

"By the way, even after receiving the blessing, I didn't feel like anything has changed. What are the differences once you have obtained the vocation? I'm anxious since I don't have experience in this at all…." [Ayase]

"Vocations corresponded to the profession that is suitable for you so if you did not put it into practice first, you will not be able to experience it. In short, a vocation is what you called [The hidden talent of a person]."

"Talent is it…Ah you did mention that usually you will get blessed when you're young. In other words, even if you have vocations, there will no further meanings in it if you did not polish it from young isn't it…" [Ayase]

"Yes. Usually we will receive our blessings at the age of 10….. I certainly can't deny that there is such part but you don't need to be pessimistic. With vocation you can absorb things 5 times faster than normal. You can start building up the experience now. As long as you have the will to grow, the hardship that you have to go through will also be fun."

"Fi…five times is it? That is incredible…" [Ayase]

I see.

If efficiency rate is 5 times then, that could only mean that other jobs other than the one in vocations will not work. But on the contrary, it could also mean that we can't do the jobs stated in the vocation isn't it? I have swindler as one of my vocation but isn't being a swindler as part of a profession questionable? The locals might end up calling me "That's a swindler" and I will be ostracised by the public. Regardless of what is done they'll believe it since there will be no one in existence who will travel from one place that they are not familiar with to another just to fraud someone else.

I hate this swindler's vocation! Why are they so easily deceiveeedddd~!! Were they only living day to day just as described? I suddenly felt sad for the human affairs here. This vocation system is way too cruel.

“Even though it was said to be 5 times, the growth of everyone depends on each individual, Jirou. Without efficient training, you will lose out to even a normal child who doesn’t have the same vocation but had went through hard training. Within the mercenary group, there are also members inside who did not have combat related vocation but they managed to cover it up through experience and effort. Well anyhow despite how much effort they put in, they will never be able to compare those with vocation and effort as well….” [Shello]

Well, certainly that might be true.
If those with vocation trained for 1 hour and another without vocation who trained for 5 hours every day in the same row, there will definitely be a difference there. Being a high school graduate NEET who only study 1 hour a day when needed could understand it.

–But 8 vocations, is it. What kind of vocation is well, I do have an idea in mind… I have actually dabbled in different kinds of hobbies before during my long NEET-record but, will such simple basics be alright?
(TL: meaning he had experiences in most of the jobs in the vocation list already)

Aa, the only one that I do not have an idea of is being a magician.

Wait…hold on. Could it be that? Since I am still a virgin even after 20 years, I have the talent to be a magician? Eh? Seriously? Will such criteria suffice in being a magician? If I had received this blessing at the age of 10 and obtained magician as my vocation, wouldn’t it make me despair? Doesn’t it mean that my future as a 20+ year old virgin was already confirmed since the beginning? (ヤラハタ確定じゃね？)

Earlier on, I did mention that one of my vocation is magician so isn’t it openly declaring to them that I’m still a virgin? This vocation system is way too cruel.

U wa~a a ā

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I told the elf-chan to keep it a secret about me. I did not want to gather so much attention for receiving 8 vocations so I pleaded them to not spread it around and left the temple after. In truth I was meant to make a donation but since I do not have any money on me I was exempted from it. Well, if they want donations, I will donate to the extent that the elf-chan falls in love with me.

“Come on Jirou. We will be going to the guild next but….which guild do you want to go? If you have that many vocations, you can choose from almost any of them.” [Shello]

I will need your help using your connections with the merchants please…..Etto, so what should I do in a guild? Apologize for my ignorance.” [Ayase]

“People that came from another place goes to the guild to have themselves registered as the residents. By doing so, they can get a job or run a business in this city. Actually those who came from another place will not be able to register without proper introduction letter but we can handle it from there for you.” [Shello]

“Thank you very much for anything and everything that you have done. You’ve helped me a lot.” [Ayase]

Right after I have given my gratitude, all of the sudden a “Mission” board appeared right in front of my eyes. The mission board started glowing palely and upon closer observation I noticed that there was a slight change at the section under【Guidance of Baraka】. The number 0/2 in the sentence “Return the gratitude to the hunter 0/2” changed to 1/2. It seemed like the quest was proceeding smoothly by giving my gratitude verbally to the hunter. If the next gratitude is given in the form of goods, will the quest be completed?

“Then shall we go to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry? I will introduce Jirou there so just match the story properly.” [Shello]

“Y-Yes. Thank you very much!” [Ayase]

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The Chamber of Commerce and Industry is quite a big building unexpectedly. It is a two-storey refined looking building made of brick and has quite a big presence in the middle of all the rustic looking stone buildings in Erishe.

As soon as Shello-san entered he called out to the reception table, “Is Toby here?”. In a short while, a person who seemed younger than Shello-san came out from the back. It appears to be man in glasses in his mid-thirties.

“You should be calling me Tobias at my workplace, Shello. It is quite rare for you to be making an appearance here. Furthermore even Rebecca-san is with you too today….It’s been a long time, Rebecca-san.” [Toby]

“It’s been a long time, Toby-kun. There is something that we need your help with today.” [Rebecca]

“Help? Is it regarding the purchase of magic crystal again? If that is so we would need to make a profit here too. If it’s not for that we would be happy to get as much from you.” [Toby]

“Aa, it’s different. We came for something different today…..Oi Jirou.” [Shello]

I walked towards the guy named Toby after Shello-san called me. I wonder if they were old acquaintance since he has been talking in a familiar way with Shello-san and Rebecca-san. The eyes behind the glasses were glaring at me sharply giving me the feeling that this person should not be dealt with by ordinary means.

“This is Jirou. Rebecca’s elder sister’s son so in other words, he’s her nephew. He came to Erishe from the Imperial City in order to become a merchant but on his journey he was attacked by robbers. Iya I give up on it.” [Shello]

“……In order words you would like to register without the letter of introduction? Shello?” [Toby]

Uwaa~ doesn’t this lie sounded too obvious? Moreover, the setting as Rebecca-san’s nephew seemed unreasonable. We don’t even look alike and our race is different….. At the very least you should let me say something too….

When Shello-san nodded, Toby-shi looked at me dubiously and started scrutinizing me. No matter how I look at it, he seemed to have seen through the lie. Seriously thank you very much.

I have come to the conclusion that it was impossible to leave this to Shello-san. This was the result of leaving the negotiation to a muscle brain character! I need to complement it somehow and convince Toby-shi.

“……Tobias-san. Actually I have currently lost my memory. I am Shero-san and Rebecca-san’s nephew….I think since I don’t have the memory of it. We don’t have something such as an invitation letter. Based on the circumstantial evidence, due to the robber's attacked, my head might have been strongly hit and I ended losing my memory possibly…..” [Ayase]

“In other words, there are no other ways of proving that you are Rebecca-san's nephew apart from Shello and Rebecca-san's testimony, isn't it?” [Toby]

“…..I do not have evidence or anything at all.” [Ayase]

On hearing what I had said, Toby-shi closed his eyes for a short moment then said.

“…..Rebecca-san, are you confirmed that this person is indeed your nephew?” [Toby]

“Yes it's true you know? Jirou is unmistakably my nephew. His eyes look just like Jessica-neesan.” [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san confirmed it in carefree tone.

“……..Is that so…..certainly the clothes seemed to be from the Imperial City…. You, your name is Jirou-kun am I right? Do you have any vocation relating to merchant?”

“Ah yes. It's [Merchant] and [Jewellery Scholar].” [Ayase]

F-For the time being I should just name two of the vocations. If I said I have 8 vocations it might get the opposite result again making him suspicious…

I chose merchant and jewellery scholar, well since these jobs seemed simpler and easier to get used to. Being a craftsman or blacksmith might be good too since I can be a craftsman instead or working on a business.

“Hou, a double job and on top of that, a jewellery scholar….” [Toby]

Toby-shi kept scrutinizing me so I stared back at him.
Although the tense atmosphere continued on for some time, Toby-shi breathed out a sigh as he took a look at Shello-san and shrugged his shoulder in resignation.

“….Well if that was the circumstances then it can't be helped. For now I will save your face and help register that kid….But you should treat me the next time alright?” [Toby]

Somehow it turned out fine in the end.
Although it didn't seem like the part on my memory loss is revealed, I somehow looked more like a suspicious person tricking a good natured Shello-san and his wife now…..

Toby-san might have seen through Shello-san's lie but he had noticed Shello-san and Rebecca-san's intention of trying to protect me. I'm so glad they are such good people.

The method to register is by dripping my blood onto the pale metal plate then the staff brought the plate to the back. After a short while of waiting, the staff returned with the metal plate that was divided into two and told me, "This is now your guild card" and passed it to me. After that I just filled in my name and vocation onto a paper that looks like a parchment and completed the registration.

This guild card is something like a resident card in Erishe so once I obtain this, I can either start a shop, get a job or even buy a house. My life here finally begins.

Alright! I've received the blessing and registered with a guild too.
However, I should return back soon at least once since I didn't get any permission for my sleepover yesterday……..

Chapter 008 – The smell of excitement of the other world's shop

"I was able to receive the blessing thanks to the both of you. You have also helped me with the registration of the guild so I can finally start working in this city….. This is the only thing that I have on myself now so if it pleases you, please use this." [Ayase]

As I said that, I passed a Bowie knife that was not sold in shops to Shello-san. If Shello-san accepts this, my quest "Return the gratitude to the hunter 1/2" should be cleared….

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The story goes back a short while ago.

As we left the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the three of us were meant to get lunch together.

I was penniless so it would be bad to be in further debts with them. I tried declining them but Rebecca-san insisted it by saying, "Young'un shouldn't be so reserved" so I had my first experience dining out in the other world.

Shello-san's recommended place to eat is about 10 minutes walk from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The first impression that I got was village stalls. There were tables and chairs placed on the stone pavement and customer could be seen eating and drinking leisurely.

Was the food purchased from the stall along the road?
They seemed to be carrying the food over after ordering it. The road is only about 5 meter in width at best so including the customers, once all the tables, chairs and other miscellaneous are placed there, it gave a fairly cramped impression.
What the heck? Is there a festival today?

I decided to tag along with Rebecca-san who went to order food. Half of the reason was actually to research on the price of the food here while the other half was out of curiosity.

Rebecca-san made the order as if she was accustomed to it.

Five Guillaume skewers (some kind of meat that looks like chicken) cost **20 El**. Two large servings of Paella (A type of rice dish. There seemed to be a lot of ingredients inside. It looks red) cost **40 El**. Three bowls of bean soup cost **15 El** and three pieces of bread that looks like naan bread cost **15 El**. Three Ririamu (Red fruits) cost **10 El**.

They are 100 El in total.
(TL: Apologies I made an error in chapter 5 in the price so I have amended it)

In other words, 1 silver coin. Eh? Didn't she mention that 3 silver coins are sufficient for half month's meal? Did she buy too much or are the food here really expensive? I am worried about Shello-san's family budget now…..
Aren't they spending 1/3 of their half month's food in just one meal already……

Back at the table, Shello-san was self-servicing, pouring the tea for us. When I took a sip, I could taste the delicious yet aromatic smell. This seems to be a tea that I have never tried before. When I observed the tea leaves closely, they kind of resemble Neko Jarashi (Setaria viridis). So for the time being let's just call this Neko Jarashi tea.
(TL: Neko Jarashi is something a cat loves playing with = here)

Since the mirror back at the cellar was western style, I couldn't get myself to wipe off my western culture impression from this other world. It is actually really confusing. When you're drinking tea from a cup, shouldn't there be rice as well? ……well, this is also my preference so it's good.

In the meantime, the dishes ordered were carried over so we dug in.

–All of them are unexpectedly delicious!

The Guillaume skewers' meat felt slightly hard, seasoned with herbs that were similar to fennel and salt but the flavour combination was really good.
On the contrary, the Paella looks really red but the flavour was actually mild and I could savour the taste of the softly boiled vegetables and meat. The rice used

for the cooking felt more similar to Thai rice than Japanese rice too.
The soup contains not only beans but also small eggs (something like quail eggs). It appears to be nutritious.
On the other hand, the bread that looks like naan bread gives off a taste closer to pizza crust than naan bread itself. The oil is slightly dripping down from the edge of it making it looks good enough to be eaten even just as a snack.
(TL: It feels like I am writing food critics here… OTL)

Dangerous. This other world is dangerous. The foods are super tasty.

I had initially thought that 1 silver coin is too expensive for these dishes but the taste are well worth it and the portion is quite big. The Paella look alike food might be enough for 5 people. There are two plates there so it is roughly one bushel (8 gallon). Shello-san and Rebecca-san must be a pair of gluttons.

The three of us ended up devouring all the food.

Finally we had Ririamu fruits as dessert.
The appearance is similar to mango but the fruit is slightly sour compared to mango. It was said that this fruits is good as an after-meal dessert in this neighbourhood. The size is also large (roughly one size bigger than an apple). The price of this was 4 El each but three of them were be 10 El in total.

However I still can’t grasp how much is 1 El worth when I convert it into Japanese yen. If it were Japan, Paella would cost about 3000 yen each plate (anyway the amount is amount) so I estimated that 1 El = 150 yen.

It is not likely that the minimum unit is 150 yen isn’t it……. No….could it be possible? Is it pointless to bring earth’s common sense to this other world??

Well for the time being I will put this matter on hold. I will be able to judge it once I sell something from Japan here.

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“Jirou. It didn’t seem like you have anywhere else to go so you can freeload at our place for the time being. There’s even a bed for you already…..Even though it is a little far from the city.” [Rebecca]

While we were drinking tea, Becky-san suddenly cut in. Shello-san also nodded as he said “Umm..umm.”

I was really happy with the suggestion. I was just a stranger who lost my memory, wearing inland clothing and also have 8 vocations. Her treatment for an identified guy like me is way too nice. She’s being too kind that I was reaching the level of being anxious now.

But as one would expect I shouldn’t be so dependent on them. Regardless, I still need to go back home at least once. I haven’t said anything to my parents yet and I was midway in my internet auctions too.

It is painful to decline them when they have extended such goodwill to me….

“Having you go through that much for someone like me, I could only say one thing. I am very happy. My heart aches when you have allowed me to fawn on your kindness to this extent. But I have thought that I should try work something out on my own from here on. I think I might be able to make some money if I sell the goods I have in my hand…..” [Ayase]

As I said so I took out my self-made knife that was meant for self-defence and placed it on the table.

–I encountered my knife-making experience when I was a first year in junior high school.

At that time during my junior high school, there was an art teacher who was acting as an advisor of my club (he’s also teaching mathematics). I was always observing him when he was building custom knives. After observing him for a while, I somehow got myself addicted in making one too without being aware of it myself. Even now I am still making a new one at the pace of one in every 6 months.

Well, I have been associated with that teacher for quite some time now so he usually gave me the cheap materials and lent me the tools when I needed them. Even after becoming a NEET, this has been going on even now. Steel materials aside, it would be hard for me to buy electrical tools myself.

Shello-san seemed highly interested and took it in his hand to evaluate it.

I had brought the only thing that is likely to be able be used as a weapon……a Bowie knife with the longest blade.

It is about 35cm in total length including the 20cm length of the blade.

Personally, not many people will make a knife with this size. If anyone were to carry this outside in Japan, it would immediately be discovered but since I created this for my own admiration, it wasn't a problem.
The steel material is ATS-34. It is a classic stainless steel knife.
The sheath (leather sheath) is also self-made. There were fine carvings done on the cowhide as well and it was one of my prideful work.

"This is a good knife. I have seen various types of knives during my work but this is my first time seeing a blade as polished as this. My face was even reflected on the blade itself. The structure also seems really intricate. Isn't this a quite expensive item?" [Shello]

It seemed like the knife is popular with even Shello-san who is knowledgeable about knives.

I'm not sure how much money is "quite expensive" referring to but since it's an amateur work of an anonymous person, it would be good to even get 10,000 yen if I put it up in the net auction. Well, I didn't intend to sell it on the net though.

"I don't have memory of it or where it came from but I somehow felt like this is a good item. I'm not sure how much this would sell for but I wish this can fund for my activity for the time being…..at least that is what I thought." [Ayase]

"True. With this you might be able to get a considerable amount of money. Let me ask the help from one of my acquaintance working in a tool shop." [Shello]

"T-Thank you very much!" [Ayase]

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The items that I brought to this world apart from the Bowie knife were two drop point sheath knife and a medium size hunter knife. The Bowie knife is a special item that was brought along so I have no intention of selling it but I was planning to sell the sheath knives and hunter knife.

If all these can be sold for 1 gold coin then it would be good but…..

Shello-san's acquaintance's tool shop is larger than what I had expected.

I should forbid myself from associating the tool shops here with the ones from RPG since I kept getting the impression of an RPG setting here.

[Welcome. This is a tool shop. What do you need? Are you looking for equipment here? Will 120G in total be fine?]
An old looking guy, working alone in a 5 square metres small shop greeting me with such line was the impression I had in mind.

The name of the tool shop is “Meeker’s Company”. It seemed to be one of the biggest shops in this city. Although when I entered, the interior looked more like a weapon and armor shop than a tool shop to me.

The shop is 5 times larger than 5 square metres so it is around 30 square metres in size.
The goods they are selling are…….is this seriously an RPG?
“This is a shop for purchasing weapons and protective gear. What do you need? Are you looking for equipment here?”
T-This is it. An RPG shop.

Sword, knife, spear, mace, wand, axe, armor, shield, gauntlet and greave. They have cloak, clothes, shoes, tools used in travel, sleeping bag, rope, cooking pots and tablewares. They even have torches and lanterns for lighting up dark places.

……this is exciting!!

I love this kind of shop!! This is certainly an adventurer’s DIY shoppp~
I think I can spend half a day just staying here!

As I was being too engrossed in the weapons and armors there, Shello-san who was astonished by my behaviour called out to me.

….I’m sorry…..I ended up becoming too absorbed in it….. I really love things like this…..

I exchanged places with Shello-san since I had the knife with me. Anyway I should just show them to the shopkeeper.

With exception to the Bowie knife, I removed all the other knives and arranged them on the counter.

The shopkeeper is a 40-ish muscular bald uncle. Contrary to the strong appearance, his eyes seemed gentle.

“……They’re all goods that I’ve not seen before in this neighbourhood…. In other words, are they inland goods or could they be products from the mountains…..? What on earth are these.”

The uncle was muttering as he inspected the items.

I’m sorry but they are from earth. Strictly speaking, they are all made by me. —-Since I couldn’t say it, I watched the inspection in silence.

Apparently it appeared that Shello-san has told him in advance about my memory loss so the assessment ended without being inquired more than necessary.

“Sorry to keep you waiting. —-After inspecting them I can say, I will pay 10 gold coins if you sell all these to me.”

“Eh?!” [Ayase]

I was rendered speechless. 10!?

If I convert 10 gold coins to Japanese yen….. What I have calculated earlier was 1 El = 150 yen so since 10 gold coins is equivalent to 10000 El…….

………it will be 1.5 mil yen.

“–Ah please don’t misunderstand. If I were to clarify, the value of the knife would actually be 1 gold coin…..It’s just that, this knife’s manufacturing method was not yet introduced in this country. Even I have not seen it before. Not to mention I don’t even know what kind of material is this. Judging on the weight it could be iron but…… I have not seen the handle’s material before too. In short, everything about this knife is a mystery.”

Well that is given. The material is Japan made stainless steel and the handle is made of maikaruta (America’s composition of synthetic material).
(TL: maikaruta handle with stainless steel blade -> image)

“….in other words, you bought it because it’s mysterious?” [Ayase]

“Rather than that reason, it’s because of trust. It’s the thing about memory loss…. For example, you might be someone who have brought in samples from the [Imperial Capital] or the [mountains] and lost your memory on your way here. Then, you were brought in because you are broke so I should not bring down the price since I need to concentrate more on the newly found sophisticated technology. It’s to install confidence in this shop and above all it’s a matter of pride. That is why, it will be 10 gold coins. Well, in return let me study the manufacturing method of these knives.”

I see. Certainly if I were a messenger who have brought in new sample goods from the other countries’ as a merchant, they couldn’t afford to drive a hard bargain just because I had ‘fortunately’ lost my memory.
(TL: meaning they shouldn’t take advantage of his memory loss cause they might ended up losing the trust instead)

However, to say that I have brought in samples could only mean that I might look like a merchant?

“If you are not a merchant, you will not be eagerly checking out the shop’s goods as soon as you entered. Even when you lost your memory, that part will never change!”

The shopkeeper said as he laughed.

I see. I was just curious though (a fan of tools). Although I do have merchant as vocation.

Well if he is planning to buy them at high prices, I should just accept his generosity. I was initially troubled because I do not have any funds to begin my activity here so I am honestly happy.

Furthermore, they are gold coins. If I were to bring them back to the other side, I might even be able to exchange them for real cash too…right!

“Then we’ll settle the negotiation. Please hold on.”

As he said so, he took out 10 gold coins from his blue drawstring bag.

On receiving the coins, I felt a heavy feeling weighing on me. I turned around to face Shello-san and Rebecca-san.

“Shello-san, Rebecca-san, seriously thank you for everything that you have done. I was able to receive the blessing thanks to the both of you. You have also helped me with the registration of the guild so I can finally start working in this city…. This is the only thing that I have on myself now so if it pleases you, please use this.” [Ayase]

Thus I took out my Bowie knife from the bag and handed it to Shello-san.

Chapter 009 – The smell of the quest's reality in the other world

"Will it be alright? No, I am happy with it but this might be the key to regaining your memory. Are you fine with it?" [Shello]

"Aa, yes." [Ayase]

Aa, yes notttt!!!!!
Even though my memory loss was just a setting, wasn't it strange to him that I was giving out my possession easily? I seriously don't get it……..

But well……I hadn't really lost my memory in reality so is good!
I have already understood those type of people well enough!

"That's right. I have not felt anything even though I have been carrying this with me for some time so it is fine. I think it's good if I get my memory back bit by bit." [Ayase]

It could be that Shello-san was either somehow convinced by that reason or that he really wanted the knife. In the end he received it without pursuing the reason.

Once he has received that, I had thought that my [Quest] will be cleared.

All of the sudden, Shello-san and I began to shine brightly.

Then the vocation board emerged in front of me.

Then….

PON *(sfx)*

A PON sound resounded and the board shrunk, transforming into a cute palm size fairy. Seriously? I should calm down.

"Yo~yo. Nice meeting you. Why are you showing such a dumb look? Here is a congratulatory item. It might not be necessary to value it but since it's the "First Spirit Stone", there are many people who kept it as a momento. See ya. From now on do your best for the sake of the world and the Spirit-sama."

PON.

…….Eh?
What was that just now? Was I daydreaming?
Since I have the blue stone in my palm, it was not a dream after all?

I looked at Shello-san for help. There is a similar stone in Shello-san's palm as well……What is going on?

"Shello-san, what was that just now?" [Ayase]

When I asked him, he admitted that there was a stone in my hand and held my shoulder.

"Ou, Jirou has achieved your guidance too? Congratulation! I have just achieved mine too!" [Shello]

"Etto? In other words, what is going on?" [Ayase]

Rebecca-san explained it to me instead since Shello-san was getting excited there.
Apparently once we have achieved our guidance, our guidance board will take the form of a spirit and the spirit will award us with a "spirit stone". The spirit stones were believed to be the blessings of the great spirit itself, so even if I were to remove the fact that it looks like a genuine jewel, this seems like an expensive deal.

So if the people here received the "guidance", they will do their best to try to "achieve" the guidance.

Shello-san has a spirit stone in his hand too so he must have achieved the guidance. So this could only mean that the guidance was….. a quest generated when he first met me……So that was the reason. Certainly I think he did mention that it was in accordance of the guidance or something similar…..

"……..Is that so…….Fufufu." [Ayase]

When I finally understood that he has helped me not due to his own free goodwill, I somehow felt slightly disappointed. I ended up laughing to myself when I remembered it.

I had not expected myself to be the type who would mind such things myself.

And…..in truth, the result did end up all right anyhow. Pertaining to the situation where I pretended to lost my memory, I mean. I was even able to hide the part about my inherent job.
So in a way it was not really a debt of gratitude.

Somehow, I wonder if my heart has weakened since I am still not accustomed to the other world.
I suddenly felt that it doesn't really matter anymore….. well, I would be returning to Japan soon anyhow.
When I started thinking like this, everything seems pointless.

"……Then, thank you very much. Once I have settled down, I will pay a visit again. I shall take my leave then." [Ayase]

After saying so, I turned my body and quickly left the shop, running away from the both of them.

No, to be more precise after leaving the shop, I was running at full speed.

From the back I could hear Rebecca-san saying, "W-Wait, hold on there" in trying to stop me but I wasn't able to stop anymore.

I was overcome by a feeling that I couldn't even understand it myself.
I continued running, running, running, left the highway and I soon arrived at the house with the mirror without taking any breaks.

Thus I finally returned to my own room for the first time after one day.

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I came back to my room, went to my mother to make a suitable excuse for staying overnight without permission and settled down after while drinking a cup of coffee casually.
I wonder what the heck was that. I knew that my heart was weak from the start so I could understand why I ran away but even so, I had not done what I had intended to do.

The gold coins, spirit stone and guild card were now placed on the desk.

For the time being, I decided to first put aside the incident whereby I had run away from Shello-san and Rebecca-san and kept it within myself. I had a lot of experience in feigning ignorance in my part-time…………I should calm myself down. Once I have crushed that feeling inside me, I can go greet them normally again.

Finally, I can start thinking about my future business in the other world.

Right now the funds I have are 10 gold coins and one spirit stone that might be possible to be converted to cash. I also have 870,000 yen which I have saved up little by little in Japan.
I want to start venturing into business with this fund….

However, when it comes to starting up a business in actual, first of all I would need a co-worker who will be able to understand the situation too else it would only be difficult in long term. It was actually tiring if I were to collect information every time on the pretence of losing my memory so I require a bodyguard in case of unwanted incident.

I do have swordsman as a vocation but I would need to train and being a swordsman might end up major injuries too. It would be better if I don't go for that.
Although I want a sword.

I wonder, is it a good idea to hire mercenaries as bodyguards? But if I were to say mercenaries then…..After betraying me, I was strike down one shot! That image was somehow projected in my mind.

Rather than a mercenary, I wonder if that priestess-chan would do it as a part-time job.
"This and that and everything is also part of my work, alright. Alright."
Something like that feels exciting in various ways.

–That's it. Elf.
Business plan is good but I should investigate about elves.
Apart from priestess-chan I have not seen any other elves yet so I don't know how many elves are actually living in the city. I should find an elf and make friends with one. I wonder if flashing 1 or 2 gold coins would work……..

Oops! Stop it, stop it.

Well anyway I should head over to the priestess-chan's place and inquire the information about elf then possibly take a few commemorative photos. After that I could create bromides and sell them here. Using a hidden camera to take photos might be good too. I wonder if 10,000 copies might sell well.

Oops! Stop it, stop it.

Also I should also think about setting up a base for my activity. For the time being, the house with the mirror might be a good place but what about the rights of the residence itself? I am not really familiar about that in the other world…..Perhaps I should ask Toby-shi about it.
With that, I can live in that house with an elf as newly-married couple…….

Anyway, I should start making a strong foothold in the other world first. It seemed like it would be easier to earn money in the other world and there are ample funds too.

The activities here will be put on hold for now.

…….Wait, hold on.
Perhaps I should start sowing seeds in this world first……

When I start up the PC, I created a board in one of the group chat that I usually frequent as anonymous.

【Breaking News】My mirror is connected to another world.

1: Anonymous Fairy

- I woke up this morning to find that the mirror in my room is actually connected to a different world. Can anyone give me advice on this?

Chapter 010 – The other world’s gold coin has the smell of petit bourgeois

2: Anonymous Fairy

Just hit the mirror and go to sleep

3: Damn! This thing is bullshit!

____

＜o√
//
Kuku
Before I stop you, run off to another thread now!
Faster! Faster! Just escape disregarding me!

4: Anonymous Fairy

I feel like peeping the scene of the princess changing clothes in the other world.

5: Anonymous Fairy

Never mind that, just hurry up and upload the photos.

6: Anonymous Fairy

What kind of thread is this
Do it in the live chat

Bullshit thread closed

7: Isolated self ◆ 4noig329de

Please explain in detail how was it connected
Did you just see it on the surface or can you go to the other side?
A full length mirror and a hand mirror will be completely different

8: Anonymous Fairy

This joke material is seriously cool

9: Anonymous Fairy

How on earth is it connected…
It is likely decided in one line

10: Anonymous Fairy

I reported it

11: Anonymous Fairy

It’s still 1~? (１まだぁ？)

12: 1

I went to the other world through the mirror
The other side of the mirror was a medieval house (abandoned house)
I took a photo of the living thing in that other world
Right now I will be adventuring more!
If I find any other interesting things there, I will snap the photos
<image url> *(TL: the photo of the spider taken in chapter 2)*

13: Anonymous Fairy

Being able to go to the other side’s setting is it?
Try making a crack in the mirror and go to the other side then

14: Anonymous Fairy

Don’t paste something grotesque idiot

15: Anonymous Fairy

I’m afraid to open the link. What kind of image is that?

16: Anonymous Fairy

It’s a big house centipede.

17: Anonymous Fairy

Blechwwwjiwwwwewwwwwwjiwwww
No matter how i see it, isn’t this a spiderwwwww

18: Anonymous Fairy

What the heck is this?

19: Anonymous Fairy

Isn’t that a lot of legs?
Isn’t that a lot of legs?

20: Anonymous Fairy

Is this for real?

21: Anonymous Fairy

That must be one pro CG creator

22: Anonymous Fairy

>>21
I'm glad….so there are no spiders with that many legs

23: Isolated self ◆ 4noig329de

It suddenly developed way too fast!
Be more careful!

24: Anonymous Fairy

Let's personificate this spider immediately!

25: Anonymous Fairy

Well it is a spider from a different world
It is a different spider isn't it

26: Anonymous Fairy

Cummin~! Cummin~! I'm cumming!

27: Anonymous Fairy

Will you please stop that

Well that is "Another World's Spider", isn't it?
So isn't it Anal-chan?
(TL: The "Another World Spider" is romanized there)

28: Anonymous Fairy

How did it come to thatwwwww

The responses continued on in that manner.

I'm glad. They're all stupid.

For the time being I will just reply appropriately as I managed it. Since there are insufficient photos I will take need to take more the next time.

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Today I decided not to go to the other world to organize things in this world instead.

I decided to pull out everything that I have put in the net auction. Fortunately, there was no bid so I'm saved.
I have told my parents that I need to market a huge supply of goods so I will be away for some time. Well, I am not lying though.
Then, I mustn't forget to nail up my door to prevent anyone from entering at all. Well, even if mother got stabbed by such nails, certainly it wouldn't be affecting her. When she feels like entering, she will definitely enter rapidly. Normally I kept the mirror hidden underneath a cloth.

Next I will examine the gold coins.

First, the weight of one gold coin is about 40 gram. It's a real gold,–in other words if the gold from that world is made from the same metallic element as the gold here then, if I convert it to the price based on the market value of 4000 yen per gram now….. It will be around 160,000 yen. So if I have 10 of the gold coins then it will be 1.6 mil in total. Well, this is just a super optimistic estimation though.

If I assume that I will be selling this gold coin, there was still a concern if such an unidentified item will even sell well in the net so I tried searching for "gold" in the net auction.

……Aa, this is useless.

The items displayed are, what you call naturally natural, regular goods (Gold coins that have been issued as guaranteed purity by trusted organization) only. Although among them, there are also shady items listed….
And, as I browsed through the list, I found an interesting thing listed along with image attached.

Gold tester.

It was said that by operating this useful machine, it will be able to examine the content of the gold by electrochemically detecting the kinetic energy in the gold. On finding out that there is such a useful gadget available, I tried looking up on the price and was surprised to find it listed for 240,000 yen. Expensive…….

However, with this it can measure up to 24 carats (pure gold). Although I am not sure how many carats are these gold coins, if it can measure up to 24 carats then it is considerably tempting. For now, the gold purchase centre is likely to have this machine too so I should bring the coin there.

The next is the spirit stone.

It looks like a non-manufactured, blue jewel. Anyway doesn't this look like a lapis lazuli gemstone? I've seen it before a few times when I was in the black company.

Even if this was said to be a spirit stone, I do not know if there are specifically any other effects so if it is just the same as a normal lapis lazuli gemstone then the value's not really a big deal. The size is small too. Come to think of it, the stone in Shello-san's hand wasn't blue. So if the stones given for each time the guidance is cleared happens to be random, it would be amazing if we were to "strike" a valuable stone. The size of the stone is roughly as big as a fist, so if we would get a diamond as big as this size as well, I might become a billionaire…… Well, that is if I am able to sell such a huge diamond out though.

However, I am not clear if this spirit stone is just a gem or a magic stone since I didn't have enough information with me so I will put it on hold first. To start with, I will examine the value of this gold coin so I left the house while clutching a gold coin in hand.

I took the K-car from house and drove it to a gold purchase centre in the neighbouring town.

Even if I went to the next town, it would be hard to sell it since the origin of the item is unknown so it will be suspicious. For the time being, I am still not planning to sell anything. I am a guy who takes precaution.

The gold purchase centre is naturally like a pawn shop, I couldn't tell how it is in the inside just from the surface. It is likely easier to sell precious metals from unknown origin here than elsewhere. I stopped the car in the parking lot and went in quickly.

I showed the shop assistant at the window the gold coin and asked the person on the purchase of gold. The shop assistant took out the gold tester and inspected the item indifferently. I watched with breathless interest. Please! Please! Let it be 24 carat gold!!

“Sorry to keep you waiting. This is a 24 carat gold, 40.3 grams. Since the value of gold today is 3821 yen/gram, this appraisal is more or less the best deal we can offer. This will be the total.”

The shop assistant presented a calculator depicting the figure; 154,000.

It came——! 24 carat! In fact at most it is around 18 carat I guess? Was what I thought but pure gold! It’s pure gold!!!

…..I had inadvertently became heated up. So what should I do.

Honestly I do not feel like selling it but a surprisingly good amount came up. Even if I just sell it here it shouldn’t be a problem but…..

…..Well, nevermind!

Let’s sell it! Then let’s squander it!

Besides presenting my license in a businesslike manner, the purchase was done without much inquiry. Right now I have 154,000 yen in my hand. Even if I were to work really hard in the net auctions for one month, it was rare to get such an amount of profit.
That is, if it is on a good day…..
It seems like there are no other choice than to live by trading with the other world now…. I will not say that the other world is scary anymore…..

That day after that, I ate a large serving of miso ramen with all the toppings (with gyoza too), went to the super public bath, bought canned beers, returned and had a drink before going to sleep.

Iya~, luxury is indeed a good thing isn’t it!

Eh? Stingy?
After becoming a NEET for 2 years, this is really luxurious for me!

Chapter 011 – The smell of a new start in life in the other world

The next day, I woke up at 5am in the morning, put on the other world clothing that has dried up after washing yesterday and packed all the things that I wanted to bring to the other side inside the bag.

First, knife. Since I have given the Bowie knife to Shello-san, the ones I have left here are only medium or small knives. Previously I had made a Kukri knife once as a joke but that one is still unfinished…..
Therefore, I brought only a medium sized ordinary sheath knife.

Then, leaving only a single gold coin here, I brought the rest of the 8 coins in my bag. After that, the spirit stone and guild card, digital camera, emergency kit and toilet paper, handkerchief, towel, overnight set (toothbrush and change of underwear), emergency rations and a few handheld jewellery.

Well, this should do it.

The overnight stay set prepared were those listed. I wasn't sure how much it cost for one room but I am planning to stay in an inn in the other world.

The jewellery that I brought are cheap imitations and also slightly expensive ones so roughly about 20 of them. I brought them along in a jewellery case.

These jewelleries are samples that I have obtained when I was working in the black company. Ah, come to think of it I haven't explain what I was previously working as.

The company that I entered after I was lured by the pleasant job vacancies by Hello Work was, to put it simply, a jewellery trade business. What we did was quite wide, ranging from jewellery and painting to export and import of fur. However, painting and jewellery's business sales and all sorts of event planning and operations are the main business.

Meanwhile although I was assigned as a jewellery salesman, the quota was 2 mil yen per month with no overtime pay, no holiday pay, long pep talk, compulsion of drinking meeting and I often got bellowed at. Furthermore, the president's face is importunate making me feel fed up with black company immediately.

The content of the job was hypnotic selling of imitations jewellery and selling of home-party's imitation produces…….The only sales method pulled out were mainly scams.

In extremity, bonus was paid as compensation.
[You can feel free to choose from jewellery to painting to fur trading!] When I was told that, I seriously vowed to quit……. As I thought it is bad to recklessly join a company that offers bonus 4 times a year……

Well, although it might be due to entering that company that I obtained the vocation as Jewellery Scholar….. but I don't want to work at that place for the second time anymore…… After I quit, there were rumours of them getting caught due to tax evasion but I wonder how they have become…..

That aside, it's another world. Let's leave quickly!

Thus, I went over to the other world.

From now on I should be going towards Erishe city but the distance is toilsome. When I tried thinking of a method of transportation, a horse came to mind but I haven't ride a horse before. I can't go by bicycle either……

I don't need swordsman and swindler as my vocations so it would've been a lot better if I obtained jockey as my vocation. Or rather, will my vocation increase in future? I wonder if I should ask priestess-chan about it.

As I think about unimportant things like that, I reached Erishe, making sure that I don't come across Shello-san on the way as well.

It took about 1 and a half hours to travel by foot from the mirror residence to here. So my walking speed is roughly 6km to 9km per hour? In truth it might actually be shorter so it should be about 5km or more? I might want to secure a means of transport soon.

Erishe city was just as vibrant as the day before.

I went straight to the temple. My aim is priestess-chan! It's the elf priestess-chan! (Come to think of it, I've not heard her name)

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"Today is the priestess-sama's day off."

While clutching a digital camera in hand, I leaped into the temple in high spirits but I was halted by Pumpkin-san who threw merciless words at me. (Pseudonym. 58 year old woman. Hairstyle similar to a pumpkin)

"Then I would like to see Priestess-sama." [Ayase]

"I've already told you. Today is *that* day for Priestess-sama so she is having a day off. Come back tomorrow." [Pumpkin-san]

Ga-n~ *(sfx: disappointment)*. My spirit was dampened.

……anyway, did she say it was *that* day? That obasan, she said *that* day right? *That* day means it's *that* day right? I wonder if elves experience it once a month too. No, hold on…… I've heard that elf is a race with low sexual desire…..Based on the reaction, it should be once every half year, that……..I've read it in a novel before that it's the time when they are in mating season! That's it! I shouldn't miss this flag!
*(TL: just in case, **that** day refers to woman's menstruation xD)*

"…….It's really an urgent matter…..Will you be able to relay it?" [Ayase]

"Even if you say that. If someone were to bring an elf race somewhere when it's *that* day for them, it will usually be someone who is in intimate relationship with them so I don't know about the others. Of course she's not here anyhow." [Pumpkin-san]

Alright! Let's search for her! The one who can help the priestess-chan who is suffering from oestrus once a year can only be me! I have no choice but to collect the flag!

……However, when I think about it, there are no leads on where I should start searching. Without any kind of starting point, it would be impossible for me to find elf-chan at all. Just as I was wondering what I should do, I suddenly hit on an idea. Perhaps I have one of the skills that can be used.

I should try it since I am out of option!

I put out the vocation board.

《Trip to another world》, 《Principle of universe》and《The mirror of truth》. Once I use the skill《The mirror of truth》, I might be able to clear the quest right away so I had thought that I should use this as soon as I can.

By the way, how do you use one of this skill? As an experiment, I tried clicking on it using my finger but it kept slipping through without any resistance.
I wonder if I should do the same thing as how I first pulled out the vocation board last time.

First I will try《Trip to another world》. But even if I were to say that, I don't know what it means.

"Trip to another world, Trip to another world, Trip to another world….." I started praying.

………And. Nothing happened.

So, next next. "Principle of universe, Principle of universe, Principle of universe……" I prayed silently again.

………And. Nothing happened.

Is this alright? Is my assumption wrong? I want an instruction manual-nya.

I'll redo this again, next. "The mirror of truth, The mirror of truth, The mirror of truth……." I prayed in vain.

Upon praying, the content of the vocation board instantly changed. The page was turned over.

New texts were being engraved on the vocation board that was switched.

【Type】
?

【Name】
?

【Commentary】
?

【Magic Properties】
None

【Spirit Divine Protection】
None

【Owner】
Jirou, Ayase

“What the heck is this…..” [Ayase]

Without even having the opportunity to be stunned, my entire body started shining.
Ah yeah, since I used《The mirror of truth》, I have cleared the quest too.

PON!

The vocation board changed to a cute palm size fairy again.

“Yo~yo! Why are you showing that puzzling look? Appraising is fine but try to change a bit and be the type of guy I like okay. Aa, this is the congratulatory gift. The quest this time is easy so it’s a dull one. It’s fine to even sell this. Then see you. Please do your best again for the sake of the world and the Great Spirit.”

PON!

Thus I have another stone in my hand. As usual, she just says whatever she wants and leaves just like that.

Now, let’s go through it again in sequence…..

First, this《The mirror of truth》seemed like an appraising skill. The fairy has said so herself and in the first place the fairy seems to have done the appraisal herself.
(TL: I am not sure when the fairy has done the appraisal unless he meant that the fairy has done the appraisal on the camera since he was holding it in his hand just now. The pop up item status earlier was for the item appraised)

The item that I have appraised this time was my digital camera in hand. Since the fairy seemed to have done the appraisal, I think another world's high tech device like digital camera could not be appraised.

However, judging from the fairy's performance, this seems like an incredibly useful skill.
If I can use this skill on the merchandises in this world, I will be peerless. From now on I will be using this skill more often. Lucky…..gufufu.

The spirit stone this time was a fist size, transparent, sharp sword looking crystal.

"This should be crystal (Quartz). This one is a failure I guess. If only this is a coloured one at least……." [Ayase]

"H-Hold on! That was a guidance? Did you just achieve it?"

Pumpkin-san (pseudonym) suddenly jumped in looking excited. Well, certainly from a bystander's point of view, I looked as if I was just standing there looking dazed then suddenly my body started glowing and the quest was cleared.

"Aa, yes but is there anything wrong?" [Ayase]

"What did you get?" [Pumpkin-san]

"Etto, this." [Ayase]

I showed her the crystal.

"Ho~. You got something good there. This is the Mirror of truth." [Pumpkin-san]

"The mirror of truth, is it?" [Ayase]

"I used it for my fortune telling. That is what this stone is called." [Pumpkin-san]

……….I see, spirit-san is also a clever esprit.

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I wrapped the crystal in a towel before putting it inside the bag and left the temple.

In the end, there didn't seem to be any way to search for the priestess-chan so

I will just give up on it.
It is essential for humans to give up. The change of feelings quickly will also make a difference in work. Granny have also said it before.

Well then, since priestess-chan is not around, the only person whom I can count on to gather more information are Toby-shi from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the oyaji from the weapon shop……

Toby-shi was told that I am Rebecca-san's nephew previously. Although I think he has already found out that it was a lie……
But anyway I do have something that I need to know from Toby-shi so I made my way towards the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

After arriving at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry I finally realized it. I have the guild card already so I didn't need to specifically ask for Toby-shi. I could also ask for the other normal staff (preferably woman) since it wouldn't be a problem.
I'm actually glad. Speaking to a guy with penetrating glance like him alone will only shorten my lifespan.

And so I went to the guild reception, presented my guild card and told them that I would like to begin my trading so I require consultation before I begin.

When I explained it, the lady receptionist (Semi long hair, good natured woman with a homely face. Estimated age about 26 years old) gave me the advice on it. I was guided to a seat at a different place that seemed to be a consultation area and begin our conversation there.

"………So to begin, I have actually been attached by robbers on my way to this city and part of my memories were lost. So there are a lot of things that I'm not sure about. There are some basic parts that I might have heard of already but I'll be counting on you." [Ayase]

"Well,….sounds like you had a hard time. If there are any questions that you would like to know then I will do my best to answer if it is within my knowledge." [receptionist]

It seems like I have gotten accustomed to using this memory loss as a setting. The lie came out so easily now so I would like to think that it was not due to my nature but this was the fault of the vocation; Swindler instead.

I am actually a good and obedient child. There were few people previously who were also employees in the same black company that I entered but almost all of them couldn’t go through their conscience and quit almost immediately one after another. In the end the only ones who lasted for one year apart from me were two other guys but it was harmless.

“First of all, in this city or in the outskirt area, where should I go to if I want to inquire information on houses? It’s good to start up my business in this city but I don’t have a base here and I don’t want to keep staying in an inn too.” [Ayase]

“House is it? If it is within the city, you can look for the ones owned by the guild since there are some of them who are looking for tenants for those private properties. The houses built in the suburbs are quite hard since many of the land ownerships are vague. There is some truth in the saying ‘First come, first served’. At the same time, living in the village in the suburbs is not advisable. You will end up being tied to the village rule. To be more concise, it will be a hindrance to your merchant’s duty.” [receptionist]

“I see……For example, what if the place is outside the village, in an abandoned house where no one lives?” [Ayase]

“Are you talking about an abandoned house? It depends on the location but if the house was deserted for a long time now, I think it should be fine staying there. I think it might need a lot of repair though…. Do you have interest in any particular residence already?” [receptionist]

“Yeah, kinda…… So if I decide to stay there, will I be able to get any kind of document as proof from the guild to assure that the house belongs to me? Even though it is a deserted house, I am still anxious to stay there and above all the repair cost is really high. I am quite troubled if I can think of it as my house yet whenever I return.” [Ayase]

As I have expected she didn’t have much knowledge in that area too so she tried asking her superior about it. To be frank, that house is my main concern. I have a feeling that if I didn’t make that house as my own first, I wouldn’t be able to sleep well.

If I look at it this way, I might have actually achieved my own home in the other world isn’t it? With me there…….with an elf there….. lighting up a fireplace,

eating something like stew……then I will buy a queen size bed…….
That is why it is important. A house is important.

But I wonder if having documents as proof of ownership is a too modern way of thinking. Since this is a fantasy world, just acting appropriately might be good I think.

I looked towards the direction where the lady receptionist was heading to…… wa~a, her superior is Toby-shi. So she ended up bringing Toby-shi here. Upon confirming that it was me, there was a complicated look on Toby-shi's face.

The greeting was done casually and Toby-shi sat down as he slowly spreads out a map.

"I have heard of the situation, Jirou-kun. So, where is that house located at?" [Toby]

It seems to be a map of Erishe's outskirts. Towards the south is Erishe's city and there is something that looks like a highway that follows through to the north and west.

"Etto, on this map, Shello-san's house is at……. Is it here? So that means that village is here and if this is the highway….. It's around here." [Ayase]

"Umu……? Was there any abandoned house in that place…..? Misaki-san, could you call Oruseru here. He's more familiar with that area." [Toby]

The receptionist replied yes and moved from her seat. Apparently her name is Misaki-san. It sounded very much like a Japanese name.

Oruseru-san (a ojisan oniisan with an estimated age around 32 years old) came almost immediately.

"Oruseru. There is a house deserted there for many years and this young man wants to stay there. Was there any house in that place?" [Toby]

After listening to Toby-shi, Oruseru-san studied the map.

"Nn? Is it here? ……Please don't joke with me. There is nothing in that place. I used to play there a lot when I was still a kid. If there is any deserted house there, it would have ended up being a children's playground already. And, isn't it just a stone's throw away form the village? If that house was just built recently, it would be impossible that I didn't know about it." [Oruseru]

"…..It's so. Jirou-kun. In the first place, this place is close to the "forest". With exception to curious people like Shello, there are almost no one who will live in the suburbs." [Toby]

"Then what about the house that I saw?" [Ayase]

"Maybe you might have been mistaken? Well, if there is a chance that there really is a house there…..then let's see…..it wouldn't be a problem even if you were to stay there. There is no problem issuing a proof of ownership too. Since it's a house that only you can see." [Toby]

Toby-shi smiles as he said so.
This person is definitely making a fool of me. Misaki-san and Oruseru-san was also showing a bitter expression.
Damn, how did it come to this.

But well, if I think about it calmly, I was able to get a proof of ownership and it seems like the presence of that house is not known by anyone else too till now. The result itself is good enough. I have a feeling that I will lose if I mind it.

"Thank you very much, Tobias-san. Then, please help me issue the proof of ownership. Please do come by and visit me the next time." [Ayase]

"Aa, I will do so. I can issue it immediately. Could you wait for a while?" [Toby]

Toby-shi and I grinned at each other. This is farce.

Toby-shi and Oruseru-san went back to their post leaving me and the receptionist together again.

Anyway, for now the matter regarding the house is settled but there are still lots of things that I need to know.
How to get hold of a shop. The rough price of a shop. Recommended inn. The price of the inn. About the purchasing place, about this city and about this world……..

But, I'll put those things aside.

"I had thought of hiring a bodyguard but where should I go for this?" [Ayase]

"Bodyguards? You can hire escorts from Hunter's Guild but it will be expensive you know?” [Misaki]

“As I have thought so. Usually what will the merchants do? Do you usually hire adventurers?” [Ayase]

“Normally I think there are a lot of slaves, isn’t it? If there are cases whereby a group of merchants are involved then they will sometimes be hired as bodyguards too.” [Misaki]

“Slaves….is it. But when it comes to an emergency, will the slaves risk their life in their work?” [Ayase]

“The slaves’ contract is an official spirit’s contract so it will be fine.” [Misaki]

“Spirit’s contract?” [Ayase]

“It is a contract signed with the spirit. If you void this contract then you will lose the blessings of the spirit. In addition, there are a lot of slaves that ended up as warriors in other countries. They will not turn their back on the enemy or run away.” [Misaki]

I see. Slave seem like a surprisingly good one.
I might purchase a slave.
When I start thinking like that, my mind gradually lean towards buying a slave.
But I’ll have to look after them and some slaves might be stinky.
To begin with, how much is a slave?
If possible I want a female slave.
On top of that I want a young one for a slave.
To be honest it would be amazing if the slave is an elf.

“How much will it be for a slave sually?” [Ayase]

Ah, my speech has become sloppy. Sually? No it’s not like that, sually? Well.
(TL: It was meant to be something else but there are no words like that in English so I have to replace it. It just means he wasn’t able to speak properly now)

“I’m not so sure of it myself but they go for a wide range. The cheapest should be around 10 gold coins but……” [Misaki]

“I see…..” [Ayase]

They’re cheap.
If all of them go for 10 gold coins each, that means it is estimated that each of them is worth 1.5 mil yen.
The worth of life here is cheap.

So now that I am done here, I should carry out my research more at the place where they sell the slaves instead.

Slave trade and the beginning of my life will become part of my big adventure.

Chapter 012 – The smell of the impossible price for an elf slave

I received the proof of ownership for that house (house with mirror) and finally became the official owner of that place. Toby-shi who handed it to me in a diligent manner was somehow smirking there as he did it.

The proof of ownership was written in the other world's language on a thick paper that looks like a parchment. Of course, I wasn't able to read it but if this specification comes from that guy then I don't think there should be any problem.

When I thanked him in a polite manner, "Thank you very much for going through this trouble."

"No worries. This is also a part of my guild's job." Toby-shi replied back with a smile so there shouldn't be a problem.

……I will definitely invite you to the house one day. I wonder what kind of reaction will you be giving at that time.

After that, since I have obtained most of the general information that I need from Misaki-san, I left the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. My next destination will be, the slave trading house.

Of course I don't have enough gold coins to purchase a slave yet but I wanted to go to a slave dealer for researching purposes first…..but, I was getting cold feet actually. I wasn't even sure what kind of slaves they are selling. Would there be slaves for a modern Japanese……How do I put it, I have a sudden urge to turn back now…….

But if I will be working here, I'll need an escort, if possible I need someone who can be my advisor in this other world. Since I can't even read…..

I was able to reach the slave trading house without losing my way since Misaki-san has already told me the directions…..but…. It feels hard to enter here…..

The trading house is a beautiful two-storey tall white building with windows.

Its entrance is closed and the signage or at least it appears to look like one is there but just from the state of it, it doesn't seem welcoming. It gives off a feeling that makes it reaaaaallyy difficult to enter.

Rather than saying it feels really difficult to enter……should I go in alone? For someone like me who can't even enter a sushi shop alone? Apart from "having yakiniku alone" this is a really high degree of difficulty for me.
On top of that, no matter how I look at it, it looks like a member only place or rather the place seems to be emitting a declination aura at the first glance……..It's far too advance…..

But……..

If I intend to do my trading in this world, this must be a hurdle that I need to overcome.
Trading is war!
(TL: I seriously feel like just kicking him inside -__-)

However, I am still not able to summon enough courage to open the door and enter the building obediently. If someone were to leave, then there should be someone who will be sending him off from the inside so I should grab the opportunity at that moment. As expected I'm truly clever.

I prowled around the front of the shop like a suspicious person.
Let's enter! I have a feeling that I will lose my courage the longer the time passed but at the very moment I almost reached the door, I leaped out again…… becoming like a simulation.

After for what it seems like 15 minutes, the door finally opened.

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The one coming out of the door is a silver haired man in his 20s, clad in an impressive looking aristocratic clothing. He left the shop just like that without any shopkeeper seeing him off. It's directly at where I am standing.

It looks like my assumption was off when I thought that the shopkeeper will be seeing the customer off. I could wait for the next customer again but since this is a slave trading house, I don't think there will be that many customers in there……..

Alright. Let’s try talking to this oniichan. There might be a possibility that this guy is the shopkeeper too.

I resolved myself and decided to speak to him. In any case, I could obtain slight information on slaves from him too and the hurdle is much lower compared to entering the shop directly.

“Ano…..could you spare me some time?” [Ayase]

“Yes? Is there anything wrong?”

The man with the aristocratic style replied with a smile. He is walking alone without any attendant with him. I wonder if he is just a commoner dressed in aristocratic clothes. But his countenance or rather his aura doesn’t really give off a feeling that he is an ordinary person.

“No, I saw you coming out from that trading house just now so I thought of asking a few advices from you……Aa, I’m Jirou Ayase. Currently working as a merchant.” [Ayase]

“Do you have business with the trading house? They are open for business now so why don’t you try going inside?”

“Iya, in fact it’s an embarrassing story. I have never bought a slave before so I was faltering in front of the shop…….So, I hope you can tell me even slightly about the slaves….” [Ayase]

“I see.”

The aristocratic looking man seemed to be convinced for now. Apparently he didn’t seem to be the shopkeeper. I had called out to this guy by impulse but as expected should I just enter the shop obediently? Anyway it’s too late now.

“So what do you want to hear about?”

“I would like one as an escort so could you let me know the market rate for one? I would like to know what are the differences in the prices as well for the different gender and races…….” [Ayase]

“If you are talking about the market rate then, first of all, there are no such thing as market rate for slaves. Race, age, gender, appearance and background and vocation will greatly affect the price. It actually depends on what kind of slaves you are hoping for but the lowest class for slave is [A 60 year old ugly human man, former bandit and doesn't have any vocation]. If that matches your condition then you can buy one for even a single gold coin."

This person explained it in detail without pausing. He seemed to be well-informed. He was able to explain them fluently. It seems like asking this guy was the right choice. I should try asking more questions. Let's do so.

–So I ended up carried away.

"If possible, the slave that I am hoping for is, a young female elf who can use sword and also magic." [Ayase]

"…..are you sane?"
(TL: he is using a really rude way to address Ayase now. "you" = kisama)

Arre-?

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"Did I say something strange?…….I'm sorry. Actually I have lost part of my memory. If I have said anything that might have hurt your feelings, I'll apologize." [Ayase]

"Aa, so that was the reason…….Iya, I just thought that you must have quite a lot of courage for wanting an elf as slave."

According to the aristocratic looking man, female elves sit at the top of the pyramid dominating the highest rank among slaves. The ones who usually buy them are either royalties or nobilities with royalty rank or wealthy merchants. Of course the price is astronomical.
Furthermore, it's under reservation system.

This was so since it is very rare for elves to end up becoming slaves.

Normally, majority of the slaves are either [debts] those who are in debts, [crime] those who have committed crimes and was arrested and [defeated country] those who have been brought in from defeated countries and forced into slavery. There are hardly any elves who became slaves due to debt or crimes so most are naturally from defeated countries.

But currently the war is in a stalemate so naturally there are no slaves coming in from defeated nations too. That is why the number of elves becoming slaves are even smaller.

Next, elf has considerably longer life compared to other races. No, the most important point is that their youth period is really long. In a sexual meaning. Even for the nobles, they will have their own son taking over them too. In a sexual meaning. I don’t like this country.

Next. Elves can use spirit magic.
In this country where the people live with the spirits, one can easily use spirit magic nearby here so there seem to be a special meaning to that. Spirit magic is a magic that responds to spirit and causes miracle. This seems to be a different concept that the magic usually used by magicians……

Lastly, those with elves as slave will gain amazing status.
There are a small population who dislike it though since they respect elves. But the price is really amazing and the merchants who have elves as slaves are usually certified as first-class merchants.

—-Therefore, elf slave is not something achievable for someone young, carefree and untalented like me.

…….But………..

“Is that so……. But I guess if I can buy one then I would like to buy one. I wonder if I can make reservations in that trading house.” [Ayase]

“Even after listening to all that, you still feel like buying one? I am seriously doubting your sanity……..Or are you a son of a wealthy merchant?”

“No, I’m just a single-minded individual. But if I can buy my dream with money then I would like to aim for it…….And, I will end up as a wealthy merchant in any case. Buying an elf is only a matter of time. Well, I am just a worthless novice for now.” [Ayase]

“…….Dream, is it.”

The aristocratic looking man displayed a complicated look and became silent.

Yeah, a dream. It was a dream that would have never been possible. It’s a dream of all the three billion elf fan on earth.

Besides, it is decided that the elf will be happier if she comes to my side. That’s because I am possibly the person who loves elves the most in this world! Even if it might just my own self-satisfaction proclamation!

The aristocratic looking man who was in silence earlier turned around to me.

“Then let’s have a match.”

“A match?” [Ayase]

“Yes a match. If you win then I hand over the elf to you.”

“Ha~a…..te, eh? Seriously?” [Ayase]

The story was flowing fast without me understanding it.

The one who have blurted out “Seriously” by impulse was me.

Chapter 013 – The smell of the reckless match in the other world

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“I haven’t introduced myself yet. I’m Jephthah Solo, a solo imperial trader. Number one merchant in the free city of Marishera. I have come to Erishe today to deliver the slaves. I was just about to bring over the slaves here.” [Jephthah]

Imperial trader……eh does that mean, a merchant employed by the country? This is bad, he is a super big-shot.
He’s also a sales person for the slave trading house!? For some reason I felt like punching myself…….te there should be a limit to that! If I am dealing with the person with elves then the end result is all right!

“Yes. Well then, will you be bringing the free elf slaves here today?” [Ayase]

“No……I did say so earlier but the elves were already under reservations. There are already 8 customers waiting even at my place….. Judging from the state of the country now, if you were to make a regular reservation, you might to need to wait for at least 5 years.” [Jephthah]

I am not able to determine if 8 people are considered a high number or a low number. The price is amazingly high but the numbers should be gradually increasing soon I guess. I wonder how much is one actually.
However, 5 years of waiting is seriously amazing. I wonder how popular are the elves here. ***I am the person who loves elves the most in this world!***
I think I might need to withdraw that statement now seeing how popular they are.

“But, a match in that kind of situation? If I win, you will be handing the elf to me? It depends on the content of the match, ah, but I will not be able to provide the money immediately.” [Ayase]

“No, if you win, money is not needed. In return, if you lose then there will be a suitable penalty waiting for you. –So how about it?” [Jephthah]

How about it? I don’t even know the content of the match so I don’t know what I should be doing…..

Generally most of the “tempting deal” always leads to horrible ending. I’m a Japanese who grew up in a world full of lessons so don’t look down on me! Rather, it is usually the one from the black company’s side who will be offering the “tempting deal”!

But I will listen to the story for the time being! I am not sure what kind of match it will be but there might be a loophole somewhere.

“Then please explain to me the contents of the match. If there is no chance of victory at all, then I wouldn’t be able to go along even if I will be able to achieve my dream.” [Ayase]

“The content of the game is, to put it simply, a gift showdown. The person whom you will be impressing will be the mayor of Erishe. If the other party is satisfied with your gift then you win. If not then I win. It’s simple isn’t it?” [Jephthah]

It’s simple isn’t it? Not! Isn’t that bribery?
Moreover if I will be the only one who will be doing the gifting then if there should be anyone investigating this, I will be the only one getting arrested. He has suggested a severe proposal indifferently.

“I see……So will it be alright if I just gift the mayor as Jirou Ayase, an individual right?” [Ayase]

“Yes please do so. I will pass the message to the mayor so please be rest assured.” [Jephthah]

“….In other words, Jephthah-san will be introducing me to the mayor then I will be gifting him and if the mayor is happy with it, it will be my win. It’s that kind of match, am I right?” [Ayase]

“Yes it is.” [Jephthah]

I’m not sure what kind of relationship does Solo household have with Erishe’s mayor but if my gifting strategy goes well, I will be getting an elf. It made me think that accepting this might even be good and tempting enough. For now, I will be gifting using my own name but if it goes well, Jephthah-shi will be the one getting all the profit.
That’s how the story goes. Underhanded. Imperial trading is seriously

underhanded.

However, if I did it poorly I might end up giving him something strange instead. That seems like a higher possibility to me…….Or it could be possible that the mayor is a virtuous person so he doesn't accept bribes?
Otherwise, he wouldn't approach a stranger like me with this kind of conversation.
He's trying to make use of an ignorant, useless person who wants an elf. It's that kind of conversation isn't it?……

In the first place, I'm not sure how heavy the crime of bribery is in this country. If it's a death penalty then it's a big gamble regardless of how you think about it.

So, in order to win this match, I will need to investigate the mayor first. It is necessary to think of a good gift (bribe) that will also serve as a convenience for business in future.
And if it fails, it will just appear like I was doing this alone without permission and Jephthah-shi will be forsaking me.
This case is similar to the situation of cutting off the lizard's tail.

U~mu……So how about this.

"…..Please let me know what will the penalty be if I lost." [Ayase]

"If you lose….let's see. Give me 10 of the spirit stones then. If you don't have them in hand now, I don't mind it even if you were to give me all the items you received from the guidance in future from now on." [Jephthah]

…..10 spirit stones is it.

I have not examined the value of the spirit stones yet. I received two from yesterday and today so it doesn't sound so far off from the 10 that Jephthah needs.

That means, is something like this, my only penalty? If I failed, I might end up getting accused of bribery. Isn't it something like that?……

Or in the first place, this match was never meant to be won and is just a trial? So if Jephthah-shi wants the 10 spirit stones, it could be possible that the value of those might actually worth the same as real money. In the case of spirit stones, they might be useful as the final form of credit then. These must be excellent. Or it could also be possible that he was just leading me by the nose, trying to use me……

……It will be endless if I keep thinking about it.

“How about it? Will you be accepting the match?” [Jephthah]

“Before that I would like to confirm something first. First, I thought you didn’t have any elves in hand that aren’t under reservations?” [Ayase]

“No, just the other day by some strange coincidence I managed to obtain the elf. I wasn’t able to come to a compromise with the other party who made the reservations so the elf is still in my hand. It’s still a young beautiful elf girl so you don’t need to worry about that part.” [Jephthah]

Fumu~ That means there is still one.
I should ask him in detail on what I should do. But there is also a likelihood that this is a lie since you can’t fully trust what you can’t see……

But a guy who decides to give it a try and risking his life in a gamble just after hearing, “Young, beautiful elf girl” is seriously foolissh~
You’ll just end up meeting the other party’s expectation!

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So I ended up participating in the match by betting my life on it.

I have brought along various items to balance it out so I might be able to do well in this.
But if this doesn’t go well by chance, I can somehow escape to the residence and stay away from the other world until this cools down. If I’m left with no choice then I might just sell off the mirror itself……..

Anyhow to obtain the elf shoujo, there is no choice but to just do it.
I will be saving the elf shoujo from the evil slave merchant. Thinking about it somehow makes my chest feels heated up. With this she has no choice but be charmed.

The gift will be presented…..on Erishe’s 50th anniversary party.
In all honesty, the hurdle is really high. Compared to the time when I was doing the hard selling in the black company’s party previously, there are no blind spots.

Working experience is great isn't it.

Erishe's 50th anniversary party will be held in the afternoon on the second day of "Erishe's 50th anniversary". On that day, Jephthah-shi will introduce me to the mayor and I will be presenting the gift to him at that time. It will be that kind of setup.

There will still be 15 more days before the festival so I will need to make the preparations in between. To be honest, there are not much time anymore but I'll do my best, Elf-chan!

It was worrisome since the contents of the match were only made through a verbal promise but Jephthah-shi will be formally making the spirit contract for the elf and me on that day. "It'll be alright even if you escape, you know?" Although Jephthah-shi said that to me as a challenge, if I do not have enough time to prepare then I will just think of another solution.

In the end, I casually asked Jephthah-shi, "Why am I gifting the mayor?"

When he heard that he just replied, "It's to celebrate the 50th anniversary."

Then why are you not presenting a gift then? Are you stupid? Do you want to die?

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After making a promise to meet up in front of the central square after 15 days, I parted from Jephthah-shi.

Now, in order to win this match, just half the effort will not be enough. I will need to double up my effort from now on. First, I will need to gather more information about the mayor. Also if bribery is considered as a crime and about the 50th anniversary festival.

Speaking about trivial things, I still need to investigate quite a lot of things so it would be quite impossible for me alone. If only I could get someone to cooperate with me too…..

After further thoughts, in the end, the only ones who came to my mind who will be able to help me are only Shello-san and Rebecca-san. I will need to apologize for running off that day too and ask them for help.

From now on I will be staying at the residence with the mirror so we are practically neighbours.

Chapter 014 – The smell of magic coming from the spirit stone

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“I understand most of the details but why did you accept it, Jirou? No matter what, isn’t it too suspicious? In the first place, is that Solo really a top merchant in the Imperial Capital? Is that person just wandering around without having any attendants accompanying him? And why did he suddenly propose such a match to Jirou? If it’s just a simple bet then it’s fine but it’s related to the mayor? It’s the greatest person in Erishe don’t you know? No matter what it’s strange.” [Rebecca]

If I think about it calmly, it is certainly true. Actually when I calmly think about it, it’s strange too.

…………….I wonder why did I get heated up and believing it after listening to his conversation. I ended up accepting the match too. The ‘goods’; elf which was used as the bet was also not seen. The other party’s identity was not confirmed too.
The entire story was only based on Jephthah, the self-proclaimed solo merchant’s testimony.
Or is it just my elf sickness getting too out of hand? Love is blind though……..No, that doesn’t have anything to do with it.
I wonder why I had thought that I will definitely be able to do something about it somehow and accepted the match……….

“Besides, Jirou. Contrary to what you have said, 10 spirit stones are actually a big deal. The total number of spirit stones that someone can receive in their lifetime is usually only 20. Even if it was someone who is really loved by the spirit, the most they have received are only 30, did you know?” [Rebecca]

U~n. Since I have received two spirit stones already in just two days, I was convinced that I should be getting 5 times as many in just one month through the quest from the guidance but……

If you can receive 20 in a lifetime, it could possibly be that they were blessed at the age of 10…….. I am not sure what is the average life span for the people here but even if I were to estimate it to be 60 years old, it will be 20 of them in 50 years……so about 2.5 spirit stone in every 5 years? In the case of 10 pieces then, hahaha, 25 years.

So that was the reason Shello-san and Pumpkin-san (pseudonym) were so excited when they saw me achieving the guidance too…….

"The price of a spirit stone is perhaps even higher than what Jirou is imagining. Even the cheapest one might get you 20 gold coins." [Rebecca]

Eh, seriously?

Wait, TAKEEEEEEE!
(TL: TAKEEEEEEE! is in English here)

If a single gold coin can be sold for 150,000 yen at the gold purchase centre in Japan, then 3,000,000 yen………I can buy a car.
Just by clearing the guidance quest, you'll be able to receive such a bonus. Being the other world's people is seriously profitable.
Well, even if I compare the value of gold on the other side and the value of gold on this side, there will be no meaning to it. But, I wonder……..

"Do you know why the spirit stones are expensive?" [Ayase]

"A spirit stone is a mass of spirit force by itself. Thus, the elves are able to use spirit magic to reduce the force and depending on the type of the stone, creating various kinds of miracle. The most popular one used should be『Rejuvenation』I think. Even Erishe's priestess-sama contracted the spirit stone's rejuvenation magic treatment." [Rebecca]

Rejuvenation is it…….
For such super power to exist……..

[This is a lapis lazuli gemstone so it's not a big deal]
That statement is so wrong, seriously. Even 3,000,000 yen is too cheap for it.

"If by chance that Jephthah is the real deal and you really need to present a gift to the mayor, that will also be really dreadful, did you know? The mayor is, her name is Milkpearl-san by the way, is really well-known as a virtuous person who does not accept bribes.” [Rebecca]

“It’s not particularly a bribe though possibly. As long as she is interested in the gift then it will be counted as my win.” [Ayase]

“That is if it’s at another place.” [Rebecca]

Ah I see.
Since the venue is at the party, if the mayor were to receive a gift from a merchant right in front of the public and to be interested in the gift as well, it will be like making an open declaration of your intention.

Uwa~a, why did I carelessly accept the conversation. Should I seriously run away?

“Ah, it seems like Jirou was awfully worried about it earlier but presenting a gift is not considered a crime. Therefore, based on this conversation, if you really do intend to accept it, then you should just prepare yourself to hand over 10 spirit stones as a challenge for yourself.” [Rebecca]

[Bribery arrested at once]
To me as long as this will not happen, it was already my best salvation.

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The story goes back a little.

After parting from Jephthah-shi, I went to the city to buy an appropriate gift as an apology before going to Shello-san’s house.

I tried purchasing sake as apology.

There seemed to be many kinds of sake in this world. There are not only wine and beer but drinks similar to whiskey and liqueur are also available. Of course it comes in a glass bottle. It seemed like the technology of producing glass existed here too.

Although their knowledge in house building or stone making are crude, they do have other quite advance technology too……..Or was it just a mere epicurism civilization? The cooking is tasty too.

The item that I bought was an amber looking sake that looks like whiskey for 83 El. Beer or wine that are usually sold in barrels are cheap but drinks that are kept in bottles appeared to be luxurious goods.

At first, I had thought of going back to the other side to get miso or something for them when I recalled the wild board stew but I didn't have the confidence in explaining the origin of the item so I gave up on it.

It took me nearly 2 hours to reach Shello-san's house.

I arrived there around noon and realized that both of them were in the middle of their lunch. It appears that they didn't mind the incident the other day when I had run off just like that and still welcomed me warmly.
And I was treated to a meal again.

It's fried rice.
Both of them actually look like Western people in every aspect but the dish that they are eating on Saturday afternoon look similar to the fried rice that mum cooks. As expected this is not the taste of soy sauce…. However, I tasted the feeling of affinity.

After we finished eating and started drinking tea, I gifted him the sake that I bought and apologized for the incident that happened the other day. "You're still young so you don't need to mind it so much." Rebecca-san said but Shello-san was overjoyed. As soon as he attempted to open the bottle immediately, he was hit by Rebecca-san.
Aa…..Shello-san is gradually turning into a silly character in my mind……

After that I told them about the incident that happened with Jephthah-shi today, regarding the advance preparation needed and that I require their cooperation since that day is fast approaching.

"It's a huge dream." Shello-san said optimistically as he rubbed the sake bottle but Rebecca-san was giving me a blank look. Were there any parts that couldn't be understand?

"I understand most of the details but why did you accept it, Jirou?" [Rebecca]

And so the story goes back to the beginning.

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Since Shello-san needs to hunt for his job, Rebecca-san will be the only one helping me.
The person herself commented, “It’s too dangerous, I can’t even bear to take a look.”
Since I couldn’t find any reason to refute it, I obediently accepted the goodwill. Is this another “guidance quest” again? I started thinking but I wasn’t that bothered about it anymore. After all, this is 3,000,000 mil yen you’re talking about there.

Thus the both of us decide to go to the city together. “Want to go by horse?” Rebecca-san suggested. That could only mean that we will be going by riding in tandem. My heart pounded rapidly due to embarrassment when I think about it.

“Then get up. Have you ridden a horse before?” [Rebecca]

Rebecca appeared riding on horseback from the stable. Ka…Kakkoi. *(TL: Cool. Decide to leave it as it is)*
As expected of a former mercenary. I wonder if she used to fight while riding on a horse last time. I am actually not really familiar with horseback riding, however appearing as if I was already used to it, I stood side by side to the horse without faltering.

As I thought I want jockey as my vocation…… Even without it as my vocation, if I start practising like normal I might be able to do it, I think. And, I want a horse too.

“……….Etto, how should I mount the horse? The saddle, is a 1-seater right?” [Ayase]

“This saddle is big so even if we were to squeeze a women and a child on top, it will still be alright. Here you go.” [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san who was sitting on the front of the saddle offered. Are you serious? And am I a child here? Tsuka…..Rebecca-san seems to have better physiques than me…..

It might look funny if I was strangely embarrassed there by myself, so I grabbed her hand and mounted the horse.

……..I wonder if it’s safe to hug the waist of a married woman. Shello-san didn’t seem to mind it at all and just told us to take care out there. Well, whatever! If he is fine with it then it’s fine!

Rebecca-san’s back feels warm………

After we set off for a short while, Rebecca-san spoke up.

“Yesterday, why did you run off all of the sudden? You’ve finally received your long-awaited blessing so we have thought of having a celebration actually.” [Rebecca]

“Aa, no, I’m sorry……I just got too surprised since I received a guidance.” [Ayase]

I ended up giving her an answer that didn’t seem to make sense since it was embarrassing to tell her the truth. I definitely couldn’t say the reason. That I was disappointed since I first thought that they were helping me out of goodwill. I don’t want to say that.

In this world, it was already natural for the people to try and achieve the guidance (since Spirit-sama will lead people to the right way of living), so it is meaningless even if I think about it.

Shello-san and Rebecca-san too, I have no doubt that they are definitely good people. I’m not particularly concerned about it as well though.

“…….It’s fine Jirou. Even though we knew you have memory loss, it was our bad for not properly explaining it beforehand……..We should have properly explained that we were in the middle of the guidance.….it’s great isn’t it, there were times when my friendship with others were broken too due to the guidance. In the case of man, there were hardly any but it happened before with my female friends, sometimes. Jirou seems to be someone who has delicate feelings……so, I’m sorry.” [Rebecca]

Nn? Was she aware of the real reason I ran off? Anyway, this conversation is not really a big deal though. Rebecca-san might be really perceptive of each and every detail…….

Even so, recognizing my own feelings was aggravating so I refuted it by saying, “I was seriously surprised at that time.” instead. “Is that so? Then it’s fine.” Rebecca-san replied in return and she never pursued it anymore.

Meanwhile we finally arrived in the city.

As for the time, it should be nearly 14:00 now.
I thought of returning but if so I wouldn’t be able to carry out my activity. The full-fledged preparation will begin tomorrow.

Oh yeah.
I decided to accept Jephthah-shi’s match.

From now on we would need to conduct our investigation. There was a promise with Jephthah-shi as well so if I wouldn’t get arrested then in worst cases I will just be giving him 10 spirit stones. I have 2 of the stones already. They’re actually still the same amount that I was carrying when I accepted the match but for some unknown reason, I had a feeling that I will not lose this match.
And above all…..

A new list of “guidance” has appeared on my vocation board again.

【Guidance of Baraka】

・ Try going to the mayor’s house 0/2

・ Fulfil the promise with the Imperial Trader 1/3

・ ????????(?･??????) 7/10

……Nn? What the heck is the one with all the question marks??

Chapter 015 – The other world's mayor has the smell of a heroic woman

Upon observation, Erishe city does certainly appear to be making various kinds of preparations for the festival.

The street trees were being decorated with cloths of various colours; red, blue, green and white. The other citizens could be seen setting up the stalls and assembling something that looks similar to a turret.
Since there are still more than 10 days, I could tell that they are doing it at a leisurely pace.

…….Is it another world's festival? I wonder if I would make a profit if I set up a stall.

The horse was left at the entrance of the town and as we walked, I started discussing with Rebecca on the things that we should do.

For the time being we decided to go to the slave trading house to confirm if Jephthah-shi is genuinely from the Solo's household. We went on full assault in the information gathering about the mayor and started discussing on what would be the best gift.

At the same time, I conveyed to Rebecca-san directly on my newly obtained "guidance".

I have already achieved two guidance in just two days in a row so the fact that I have obtained new ones surprised her. However, in the end, "Since you have 8 vocations as well, you must be really loved by Le Baraka, Jirou." said Rebecca, seemingly convinced by it.

I tried asking Rebecca-san about the "???" but somehow she doesn't know anything about it either.

From the guidance list, both "Try going to the mayor's house" and "Fulfil the promise with the Imperial Trader" are also unmistakably related to this match. I was really surprised by it but the thought, "If even the Great Spirit are blessing me with these guidance then it should be fine to ride along with the story" came across me and I suddenly started feeling optimistic.

I was initially wondering if the Great Spirit was overestimating my ability but this could be natural in this world. I'm not really sure about it…………

Incidentally, I was having a doubt if we could have a choice of "not going along with the guidance" so I tried asking.
According to Rebecca-san, a portion of eccentric people who did not follow the guidance (well doing something totally opposite) suddenly couldn't see their vocation board anymore possibly since it is an act against the spirit's principle…..well there seems to be various reasons.

In other foreign countries, rather than believing in the spirit, there are also those who believed that the Fire God or the Goddess of Faith will make the country stronger. Those countries apparently did not seem to receive the blessings of the Great Spirit (Le Baraka). How do I put it, there appears to be quite a number of deity beings in this other world.

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…………。…………。…………。

The whole afternoon was spent investigating and information gathering and I was guided around the city while in the night, I was repeatedly asked to return to Shello-san's place to stay. Without realizing it, three days has elapsed.

For now, what I understand was—-

Based on what the workers at the slave trading house said, Jephthah-shi is indeed a genuine person from the Solo household. He doesn't seem to bring along his attendants most of the time.

Rebecca-san who boldly went in the slave trading house was really manly.
I waited outside for her.

The mayor, Milkpearl-san is a 50 year old woman. She has a daughter who is currently studying in the Imperial City. Her husband is supposed to be staying with her but they are not seen in a place together much.
The guidance "Try going to the mayor's house" has yet to be achieved, although we have already investigated the location of her house.

Milkpearl-san is quite a workaholic but not much private information about her was obtained. It'll be good if only we could find out her hobby or her favourite food.

She is able to handle her work considerably well and she is highly popular among the citizens. When Milkpearl-san first assumed the position as mayor, apparently Erishe city is not really a big city yet but now the scale is almost on par with the first free city, Marishera. Before she took over, rampant corruption and bribery run throughout the city. It was quite a corrupted place at that time but it appears that she managed to clean the place up.
I see. So that is the reason why gifting strategy will usually not work on her.

Apparently Solo household does the trading in the Imperial City on an extensive scale but since Erishe is still considered as an almost undeveloped area in the vicinity, they mainly just sell slaves as wholesale to Erishe.

Jephthah-shi is the third guy from the Solo household, currently supporting the first son of the Marishera's branch as he works as a merchant apprentice. In other words, despite how that guy looks like, he is actually just a merchant novice as well.

He must have been just playing around when he was young, I concluded it arbitrarily in my head.

Rebecca-san's information gathering ability is amazing. She seemed to be familiar with everyone and was able to strike up any conversation easily. I wonder if it is because she was a former mercenary. Come to think of it, I have not heard of her vocation but could it be in her lineage?

We heard of the jewels' value in the shop after they were examined but it appears that this world is not able to produce the same degree of jewels like Earth.
It was not the problem on the quantity but there were only very few kinds around. As substitute, they have processed gems similar to spirit stones. Then if I were to bring all the jewels from Japan, they might sell really well, or so I thought but it wouldn't be so simple.

First of all, they will usually create the spirit stone's mould before processing the jewel here but there is a crucial difference with the jewel from earth. This stone consist of a mass spirit's force. The spirit stone's source is, a "magic item" that can be enchanted by the spirit's magic. At the same time, it can also be processed into an accessory to be equipped too. Spirit stones are just too almighty.

For the sake of gathering information, we went to the bar, inn, guild, city hall and travelled around various other places so I am quite well-versed with the geography of the city now.

On the south side of Erishe is a harbour, the point of contact to trade goods with the other countries. I had thought the sea in this world is similar to the one on earth but somehow the waves here are not too strong, they were just moving back and forth and the surface was swaying unnaturally. It might be due to the two moons existing here.
I couldn't smell any salt from the wind too. The sea water seemed to be fresh water.

Speaking of, I suddenly started wondering about the seafood here in this world. I had seen only meat and vegetables in all my meals yesterday and today but I haven't even seen any fish yet. There could be a possibility that the ecosystem is different. It's unfortunate since if there is such a fine harbour here then fishing equipment might sell well here.

Outside the city on the opposite direction of Shello-san's house, if I go on further from there, I will reach the mining town, Rukuraera.

The domestically prominent mining area in country is Rukuraera mountain's mine. From a refinement ground, it gradually developed into a place that is no longer an exaggeration to be called a small town now.
Moreover, there are two dungeons in the immediate vicinity. For the sake of exploration, the weapons and armours are in demand too so as a result, the place became a major industrial town due to the mining, refinement and production at the same time.
When I first came to Erishe, the group of dwarfs that I saw must be the people from there.

Anyway, they are running production, mining and refinement all at the same place so wouldn't it possibly be causing environmental pollution? I assumed they would not be taking counter measures for that I guess……

However, a mining town or dungeon does tickle a man’s feeling so I wish to have the opportunity to go there once. I am interested to see what they have to sell there such as weapons or armours…….. After watching the gold from this world or the dagger from Shello-san’s house, I can conclude that the metal refinement technology seems considerably high. I’m highly expecting it.

I haven’t come across a luxurious weapon shop in Erishe yet so it’s really interesting……..or rather, I can’t find a shop that sells a good weapon yet. The place where I sold my knife to doesn’t seem to have a good one. Mass producing swords seems more like their main thing.

All right! It’s not a bad result if we can gather these much information in just 3 days.
Although, we have yet to obtain any information that is essential for the match. I haven’t even thought of the gift yet.

Well, anyway there is still the guidance for tomorrow, let’s try going to the mayor’s house.

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The next day, Rebecca-san and I visited the mayor’s house.

It is a splendid looking two-storey building in its own way. I wonder how should I describe this house. It looks like those types in the old European town usually seen on the TV program.

A solid wooden door, built in windows and slate roof.

Truly this house is nice. I admire it. I might want one as a second house.
We rang the doorbell.

After a short while, a man roughly in his 50s with bald head and bushy beard came out. He’s wearing an apron so I wonder if he is some kind of craftsman.

Rebecca-san tried addressing him but as a proof of my upbringing I should be the one to answer.

Anyway since I have been spending time with Rebecca-san these for past few times, I have already understood it. She is something like an elder sister type or the type who really pampers people. It feels really comfortable to be with her but somehow she may be the type who spoil a man too much. Or rather it might turn someone into a useless guy. Especially to a youngest child like me, it's much too poisonous for me! I suddenly started thinking that a married woman has unexpectedly high points too!

………… Joking aside, this is an important point now so I should answer carefully without making a mistake. I need to make sure this goes well.
"Nice meeting you. I'm Jirou Ayase. I'm something like a jeweller at the moment. May I know if you are Bill Lindenlaub-sama?" [Ayase]

"Yes I am but what does a jeweller need from my house?" [Bill]

"Of course since there are new jewels that just came in so I would like to introduce them to you…….is what I wanted to say but, about 10 days ago I have received a guidance telling me to "come here to show the jewels". –Would it be alright for me to come in to talk about it?" [Ayase]

"A guidance is it….. It's troublesome but,………. It can't be helped then. Come in." [Bill]

Could it be a strong character type? To be honest I was quite scared but since super bodyguard Rebecca-san is here, it will work out somehow.

This person is Bill Lindenlaub. It's the aforementioned husband who is not around much. This person's job seemed to be something that was done in the house but we weren't able to investigate the content. Well, at this rate it's good anyhow.

Apparently once I entered the mayor's house, the guidance "Try going to the mayor's house 0/2" was accomplished and the vocation board appeared again, changing it to, "Try using the Mirror of Truth on the mayor's husband 1/2".

Will that be effective even if the other party is a human?….. I am not sure how much will it uncover so I am kinda scared….

Rebecca-san and I were guided to a living room. Although Rebecca-san was asking me in a whisper, "Why did you lie about the content of the guidance?", I had hope she will believe me in the meantime and leave everything to me.

Speaking of the content of the guidance, I have not said anything about the Mirror of Truth to Rebecca-san too. About this, I would have no choice but to make a declaration of lie to her…….Well, either way with this, the quest is going to be cleared here so it should be fine.

We sat down facing Bill-shi and started talking.

“Before showing the jewels, I would like to hear something from you first. Is there any event here that needed the jewels in such a short time? It’s my first time actually hearing someone receiving a guidance like “Show the jewels”. Is there a special anniversary or something?” [Ayase]

“No….there isn’t such a thing in particular.” [Bill]

“Is it a birthday, or a wedding anniversary?” [Ayase]

“Both are still few months earlier.” [Bill]

Afterwards, I asked several more questions but before long it felt like having an arm wrestling. I should try changing the strategy.

“Then please take a look at these jewels. Receiving this guidance could only mean that there should be something that definitely needs the jewels. I had thought that if that is the case then I want to do what I can to help. It’s also a destiny brought by the guidance of the spirits.” [Ayase]

As I said so, I put out the jewellery case.
I casually brought the case and sat next to Bill. I opened the case.

“The Mirror of Truth” [Ayase]

While pretending to show Bill the jewels, I lightly touch him as I prayed silently. In order to use this skill, I would need to touch the other party so it was a little awkward to me.

Once the Mirror of Truth is activated, the detailed information about Bill should be appearing on the vocation board.

……Uwa~a…..this Mirror of Truth is amazing.

Right now I am in the middle of reception so I can’t look at it carefully but I have obtained the information that I needed for now.
I even came up with a good strategy so let’s go with this route.

Bill who was curiously looking at the jewels said.

“…..Oi, what is this? Is this a spirit stone? It’s my first time seeing it so beautifully moulded…….You, judging from your clothes, are you a merchant from the Imperial City?” [Bill]

“Yes. I came from the Imperial City. How is it? This is one of the item that I would recommend. On the other side, is a stone called Peridot. You could possibly process it into a necklace or ring to present it to your wife? Of course, I will help in the enchantment too, it will be a lifetime treasure. Please pardon me.” [Ayase]

I was in the middle of my sales pitch but I need to finish receiving the spirit stone after achieving the guidance. Tsuka, the spirit-sama just came out without permission to give the stone to me.

The vocation board started glowing, then *PON*, it turned into a fairy (for the time being this guy seems to be the spirit-sama). Since this is the third time, I got used to it already. I’m not sure if it’s a male or female since I can’t make the distinction but it was dressed in a colourful looking clothes like a clown.

“Yo~yo, what a wicked look you have on. This impure coloured stone looks good on you now. See ya. From now on do your best for the sake of the world and Spirit-sama.” [Fairy?]

PON

It left.

The spirit stone this time is…….Uha~, a rainbow coloured stone with blue coloured core……
Could this be, no this might be….. Opal……

How is this representing impurity? I can’t really understand the spirit’s reference.
Opal is a luxurious stone!

“Thank you very much. Apparently with this the guidance was achieved. How is it? This is also the guidance from Baraka so if you are satisfied with that stone, I will yield the stone so you can present it to your wife? I would recommend necklace as a gift.” [Ayase]

I tried being a little pushy. A peridot is not particularly an expensive stone too so I wouldn’t mind parting with it since I have already received a spirit stone. Anyway right now, I need to make Bill act his mind out………

“But……I have never given my wife these before….. I did think of giving it to her but I’m not very good at embarrassing stuff…..” [Bill]

Oh, he seemed to be interested. I’m glad, I’m glad.
When I think about a strong character, this is how a guy will be.
And, once we have skilfully talk someone into it, it will be completed.

“Is that how it is? Then how about this—-“ [Ayase]

Well now, all that’s left are those trivial preparations and to prepare myself to participate in the party.

Chapter 016 – The other world’s formal dress has the smell of an aristocrat

The appointed day with Jephthah-shi seemed to be a fine cloudless day.

Iya~, such a splendid weather for a match. Just wash your neck (Elf) and wait for me!

The day after I visited the mayor’s house, Rebecca-san occasionally escorted me while I was making the preparations, but I planned to see it through till the end today.
After all, it’s my first other world party! I understood the rule so I shouldn’t be embarrassing myself (like drinking soup with the finger in the bowl).
In addition, if it was simply one-to-one with just Jephthah-shi and I, I will be anxious so if I had someone with me it will feel more reassuring.

Since this is a long awaited party, Shello-san will also be coming today. Since he said, “I need to dress up first.”, I wonder what kind of clothing will he be coming in.

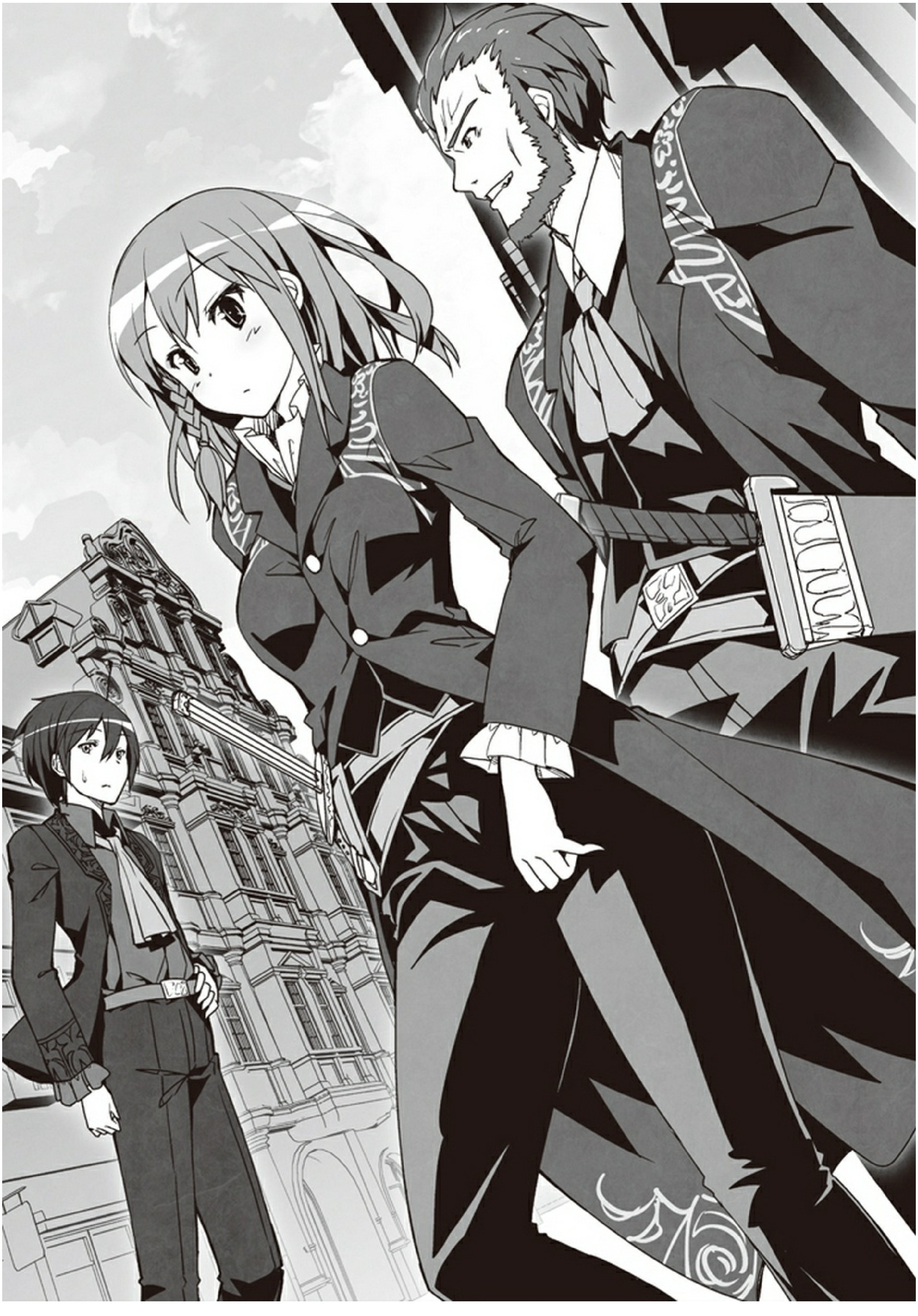
Ah, they have arrived. Both of them are quite huge so they stand out even from a distance.

……Oi, both of their clothing are amazing.

“Sorry for the wait, Jirou. Oh, a clothing makes a man isn’t it? Was Rebecca the one who selected it?” [Shello]

“It is~ It’s cool right? I’m used to it already though.” [Rebecca]

“……Both of your clothing are far more amazing to me. What are those? A knight’s dress?” [Ayase]



Both of them are dressed in the same matching frock coat with flowery vivid red coloured embroidery. On the inside is a frilly white dress shirt. There are only two buttons fastened on the coat and gilet can be seen worn in the inside. There is also a silvery white one-handed sword hanging down from the waist. The entire image is so picturesque that I was stumped by it.

Shello-san's usual unshaven face and messy disheveled hair is neatly fixed, making him look like an attractive middle-aged man or should I say old fashionable man………If the look is combined with the height of 190cm, isn't it like a Hollywood star-? It felt like it.

Rebecca-san's usually tied up semi long red hair was let down, part of the hair is braided up and her makeup is looks perfect as well to me. The red lipstick applied on her makes her look sexy.
I have always thought that she was originally beautiful however I can't help but to say she looks like a super beauty now. Iya~a, so lovely……That's right! I should take pictures!

"This. This was given when I was a mercenary after achieving military gains. We were then given the authority to come up with a formal uniform design so everyone can have a matching set. At first we're supposed to make something cheaper and simpler but as we discussed, the conversation gradually went overboard and it ended up becoming expensive." [Rebecca]

I see. So even the mercenaries in this world have their own formal uniform. Whenever someone gets too hyped up in something, they will always end up losing money instead. Somehow it has already given me that kind of image.

By the way, even though I was making all the comments on clothing earlier, I am not wearing my usual Shakespearean clothes as well today. I have changed into an aristocratic looking clothing. Although I bought it since Rebecca-san has chosen it, second-hand clothes are still quite expensive.

A dark blue jacket embroidered with threads and fabric of similar colours and a simple pants. Black shirt and leather belt. Since the shoes are slightly tall, I brought my black leather shoes from home.
At a glance, I looked like the people from the Visual Kei band in the olden days. But, I think a chic look is somewhat cool……Well after all it cost 2250 El……

Then just like Shello-san and Rebecca-san, I am also wearing a sword. But I wonder if it will look strange for a merchant to carry a sword. Will my hand-made dagger be safer?

The three of us went to the central square. It's almost the appointed time.

Erishe's 50th anniversary festival was held since yesterday.
I am already well-prepared for the match this time but not for the festival's sight-seeing yet. Once this is over I would like to go look around the festival slowly. There are a lot of stalls that I am quite interested in too. If possible I would like to browse around with an elf shoujo! Gehegehe.

We made our way through the crowd that was 3 times as large compared to usual and reached the designated meeting place at the central square. In the square there were a variety of stalls lined up, a turret built and a bonfire burning. Overall the festival was enveloped in a peculiar hustle and bustle.

The residents and streets are European but the atmosphere of the festival felt very much like Japanese instead. The line-up of the stalls somehow gave me a nostalgic feeling.
It's been a long time since I have last seen a ring toss stall…….

Well then, I wonder if Jephthah-shi will be coming soon. I didn't expect that the crowd will be so huge today so this might actually fail as a meeting place. We have only made a promise to meet up in the central square vaguely.

……Ah there he is.

He is being accompanied by a carefree looking elf guy. Both of them seemed to be eating something at a yaki udon stall. What on earth is that guy doing.

Jephthah-shi himself is already considered as good looking but that elf guy is totally in a class of his own. A super beautiful elf guy in purple robe with blonde hair eating at yaki udon stand? Un, at one whole glance, it's really cool.

"Good afternoon. I'm sorry for being late. I haven't expected that it will be that crowded today." [Ayase]

Since the other party didn't seem to notice me, I had to be the one to initiate the conversation.
Upon hearing me, Jephthah-shi glanced over. Once I returned the gaze, he looked away, then glanced at me again instantly.

Don’t do that twice!

“….Well well…… You really came. Iya~a, I knew I said that myself but I came up with quite unfavourable conditions so I had thought you will definitely not turn up.” [Jephthah]

“Since I have made the promise….it’s what I wanted to say but I did wonder if I should just run away initially. But at that time, I received the guidance.” [Ayase]

“…………..!! You received a guidance? What is the content?” [Jephthah]

“No, it’s just a normal content asking me to keep my promise with you.” [Ayase]

I wonder what came over this person all of the sudden. Is he a guidance freak?

“Is that so…..I see…..well there might be something like this too…..However….” [Jephthah]

Somehow Jephthah-shi seemed to be muttering by himself. Is he seriously okay?

“So young. Is the aforementioned person him? Then let’s hurry up and make the contract. Regardless of who ended up losing, we will not be at any disadvantage either way.” [Elf]

And, the elf man meddled in.
Don’t suddenly drop a bomb with that remark! Then regardless of who ended up losing, wouldn’t it look like I will be suffering a loss too.
Are? That means it’s that? It’s alright even if we were to make a contract?

On hearing the elf guy’s suggestion, Jephthah-shi who was muttering there a while ago cleared his throat and turned to me.

“Jirou-san. In that case you will be accepting the match by betting the elf with me right? Will it be alright if we sign the spirit contract now? The content of the match is, in the party tonight, you will be presenting a gift to Erishe’s mayor. If she is interested in it then it’s your win. Otherwise it’s my win.” [Jephthah]

“That’s right. I’m generally fine with it but how are we going to judge if the mayor likes the gift? And, as long as I am the one who initiated it and present the gift, you’ll be fine with everything else right? Even if it’s not limited to objects?”

[Ayase]

"…….No, the gift is only limited to objects. As expected, things like [Interesting story] or [Street performance] will not be considered as a [gift] this time. As long as it's an object, anything else is fine. Then next on how do we determine if the other party likes your gift. Let's decide it based on this criteria. *If she receives your gift and offers a word of gratitude then I will consider it as your win*. Will that be fine?" [Jephthah]

….Well, that's fine.

When I nodded, the Elf guy used magic to draw up a spirit contract while I stood side by side with Jephthah-shi. It was the same as when I received the blessing at the temple from the Priestess-chan. The two of our hands were held and the elf guy started reciting something like a spell.

We both replied mutually when we were asked on our name, age and gender. I have heard of it during the blessing but it appears that this is definitely necessary for a spirit contract.
It was surprising when Jephthah-shi said that he is 22 years old. For us to be of similar age……I was expecting it to be higher actually.

Thereafter a mutterings of incantations were casted, a bright light burst out signifying the completion of the contract. It was roughly the same as the time when I received the blessing.

"With this the contract is now complete. Please confirm it."

Even if you ask me to confirm…..Ah the vocation board.
Upon confirmation after realizing it, I noticed another new column of text appearing below【Guidance of Baraka】.

【Spirit's contract】

The outline of the match between Jirou Ayase and Jephthah Solo
-After the 15th day during the party, Jirou needs to present a gift to the mayor of Erishe, Milkpearl Lindenlaub.
-If the other party receives the gift and offers a word of gratitude then Jirou will

win.
-In that case then Jirou will receive the elf girl from Jephthah.
-If by chance Jirou loses, he will need to pay Jephthah 10 spirit stones (Jephthah will have the right to usurp the future acquisitions obtained by force)
-If this agreement is not fulfilled, the person who does not fulfil it will lose the blessing.

I see. So this is a spirit's contract. It was done neatly like a document? It was amazing that it appeared. If this elf has carelessly made a mistake somewhere in the content of the contract, wouldn't it end up disastrous?

"I have confirmed the content. There are no mistakes in the content too. So what should we do now? Should we go ahead to the party just like this? Ah I will be taking this guy along too. Will it be alright?" [Jephthah]

"Yes I don't mind it. You will be going there to introduce me too. It'll be fine even if we were to go ahead to the other side." [Ayase]

"Ah, and if I win you will be bringing that pretty elf girl here today, right?" [Ayase]

I unintentionally blurted out "That pretty elf girl" making it sound impure now. I'm seriously tactless.

I should have clearly said slave instead!

"…………………"

"…………………"

"Of course I will bring her along. Please be assured. Once this match ends, I will hand her over to you." [Jephthah]

……..What was that short interchange for? Why did he exchange look with that elf guy?

I'm starting to get worried separately now……. As expected, am I being tricked here?

By the way under the guidance, “Fulfil the promise with the Imperial Trader 1/3” has changed to “Fulfil the promise with the Imperial Trader 2/3”.

I wonder if that means, my relationship with this guy will persist regardless if I win or lose.

The four of us went to the venue.

Halfway through, the elf guy brought by Jephthah-shi suddenly said he has some business to attend and parted from us, leaving only the three of us; Jephthah-shi, Shello-san and I.
Rebecca-san is temporarily away as she has another task to take care of.

I had initially thought that the elf guy served as Jephthah-shi's escort but it appears that he was only brought here for the sake of the spirit's contract.

"Jephthah-san. It might be strange to hear this from me but will it be fine not to bring along your escort?" [Ayase]

"No, in truth it would be better to bring him along, but he's not really good at dealing with complicated match like this." [Jephthah]

For such a reason….

However even though Jephthah-shi is one of the man from the three great merchants, he's always having his own way (self-assertion). Since he didn't know if the elf works as an escort or a spy, it might be unpleasant for him to bring him around.

Or could it be like what I have thought previously? This world's safety and security might be really good.

"That aside Jirou-san, what will you be giving as a gift?" [Jephthah]

…..As I thought, I couldn't really answer that.

My plan gradually grew, becoming a larger scale plan than I have initially expected. I was able to prepare it due to the cooperation given by Rebecca-san but it will be similar to the feeling of an adventure since I wasn't sure how the other world people might feel about it.

"The gift is…….a secret. Well just look forward to it." [Ayase]

"Hou, you seem to be quite confident in it……..Otherwise you wouldn't have accepted this match but you've investigated the mayor, haven't you? Didn't you feel that it will not likely be that easy?" [Jephthah]

"Of course I had thought so but somehow I didn't feel that I am going to lose for some reason. Of course I have confidence in the goods that I will be gifting." [Ayase]

"……You didn't feel that you will lose? Then I am anticipating it even more now in what the gift will be. Whether that obstinate mayor will be interested in it or not….I'm looking forward to it." [Jephthah]

Was it a little provocative for saying that I didn't feel that I was going to lose? That was what I thought but Jephthah-shi was smiling as if he was content with it.
However…..somehow I felt that this guy is showing no sign of losing this match either. Or are *bonbons* usually like this?
(TL: Bonbon is a slang usually used on a rich or well-bred bishounen. You can google it if you want to read the real definition x3)

Well, it's too late to even do anything now. *The die was cast!*
(TL: The decision has been made and is irrevocable.)

The party's venue is at the open space on the lawn in front of the mayor's office. The tables placed here are somewhat even more luxurious than the ones at the food stalls but the party cuisines seemed to have already stir up little excitement causing a long line of people queuing up there. There are not only cuisines available but also drinks ranging from sake, juice, wine to a wide variety. Shello-san's eyes brightened with interest instantly.

The orchestra band was playing an ethnic sounding music and the existing guest were already enjoying there in their own way.

"Jirou-san, that person is Erishe's mayor, Milkpearl-san" [Jephthah]

I looked towards the direction that Jephthah-shi was pointing at.

The figure of a high-strung lady in clean white suit could be seen exchanging greetings with the guests. I see. She's certainly a conscientious person. I suddenly recalled the Secretary of State from a certain large country…………

"I see. So what should I do about the gift, Jephthah-shi? Is there a timing to hand the gift to her?" [Ayase]

"Let's see…. The party has just started so I'll go greet her after a while. You can do it after that." [Jephthah]

"I understand. Then I will need to make my own preparations here too." [Ayase]

Well, there isn't much to prepare already actually. As soon as Rebecca-san returns, I can begin anytime.

In the meantime, let's indulge myself in the food with Shello-san!

◇◆◆◆◇

"*Hic*. Iya~a it was a surprisingly strong sake isn't it, Shello-shi" [Ayase]

"Hahahaha. Those inland sakes are actually way better than this, Jirou-shi." [Shello]

Just when I was thinking of having just a single cup, I had not expected that even the light taste of it has caused me to be drunk noww~ Shello-san seemed to be pleasantly getting drunk there himself. We might have overdone it slightly. Come to think of it, Rebecca-san did tell Shello-san not to drink any sake earlier……whatever. It's a festival!

Even though there will be an upcoming match, this meeting party doesn't seem like the type of party whereby they will serve sake so there shouldn't be any problem in particular even if I got drunk.

And apparently Rebecca-san has returned. She gave a signal from the other side.

Alright! This is finally it.

We found Jephthah-shi who was talking to the invited guest so I called out to him.

"Jephthah-san. How about it? Will it be anytime soon?" [Ayase]

"Aa, Jirou-san. True. It appeared that the mayor has been freed from the crowds too so let's go." [Jephthah]

"Yes, I'll be counting on you." [Ayase]

The both of us headed towards the mayor. Since I am slightly clear-headed now I became fairly tensed when I think about my next course of action. Sake has made me even more daring now. I can do it!

Jephthah-shi exchanged greetings with the mayor.

I waited beside him until I was introduced. In the meantime, I checked on my equipment.

"………, and here is the person whom I was talking about earlier, Jirou-san. Jirou-san, this is the mayor of Erishe, Milkpearl-san." [Jephthah]

"Nice to meet you. I am Jirou Ayase, a jeweller. It's an honour to meet you." [Ayase]

The introduction was received and we shook hands as a form of greeting.

This is the other motive for the reason I accepted this match.
If I am introduced to this city's top people, there will come a time where I will be able to obtain something of high value for my business one day. ……Well, it will also depend on my hard selling from here on.

"Nice to meet you Jirou-san. Ara, what a cute jeweller we have here. I think I did mention about it earlier but, you shouldn't get yourself involved with the type of people like Solo at such a young age. They are all residents from the hell." [Milkpearl]

"Cute?………. No well, there are quite a lot of *gachimuchi* men here I guess. It couldn't be helped if I am evaluated as so I guess………Although I normally only have a childlike face.
(TL: gachimuchi -> literally means "muscular chubby," which refers to big, bulky body types that are very muscular)

However Jephthah-shi, won't people usually think that you're being disliked here? She has even likened you to the residents from hell…….

"So….I was told that you will be presenting a gift to me? I will say this beforehand but I refuse to accept such a thing. For argument's sake, rather than an emperor, I'm being entrusted with sovereignty. If I received such a present, I might end up losing sight of the road pointed out by the spirits." [Milkpearl]

"I fully comprehend it…….But would it be find if you just take a look at the goods? If you really dislike it, I don't mind it even if you refuse to accept it." [Ayase]

As I said so, I retrieve a necklace case from an olive green bag. This case is something brought over from the other side (Japan). This item in hand is probably cheaper on the other side and it’s of good quality too.

I have somehow entered myself into a business mode.

“The gift that I would like to present to you this time is, the Peridot necklace here. Although the size of the stone is roughly only 4 carats, the spirit stone (Peridot) that was moulded into oval-cut with the deep olive green colour that enhances it even more, in foundation, has a good compatibility with gold. This has even been beautifully engraved by a craftsman.” [Ayase]

To catch hold of someone’s attention, we need to first describe the item. I don’t know how well these words will work in the other word but that part is not particularly important. It would be sufficient as long as the other party thinks, “That is quite impressive”.

“It’s lovely. I have seen many green gems before, but it’s my first time seeing one with such deep shade. It is certainly a wonderful item indeed…….but, I couldn’t afford to accept this all the more. Especially from merchants like you and Jephthah-kun.” [Milkpearl]

Well, it’s true. Then I will proceed on.

“No, the item was indeed prepared by me but the real gifter is another person…….There might be possibility that you have someone in mind as well.” [Ayase]

“No? There is not a single person in this country who doesn’t know that I don’t accept gifts. The only person who was still insisting on it is only Jephthah-kun alone.” [Milkpearl]

It really appears that she doesn’t remember it.
Well, that was the only reason this method will be effective.

“Since the ancient times, peridot was said to have good compatibility with gold. And, that compatibility’s merit was also combined with『the light shone on one another』. In other words, it was also the symbol of love between a married couple. The jewel Peridot’s name also originated from the word『Marital Love』(『夫婦愛』)……. There was an engraving done on the necklace. Do you recognize it?” [Ayase]

Milkpearl-san was suspiciously confirming the base of the engraving on the necklace. Even though this might be a gamble since I wasn’t sure if she might be able to remember it but that was a motif that she used to wear often when she was young so she should recognize it.

“………..! ……..Eh, this…….. But…..” [Milkpearl]

She’s flustering. She’s flustering.
At the moment when she was getting slightly confused, I should go through with the story. After I sent a signal to Rebecca-san, a battery-powered microphone and small amplifier that I have brought from home yesterday were carried over to this place.
The volume was adjusted to max. With this, it will be possible to hear my voice from anywhere within this ground.

testing microphone

“A, aa-, everyone, I would like to thank you for coming to Erishe’s 50th anniversary party today. On behalf of the citizens here, I will be presenting a bouquet as the expression of our gratitude to our mayor Milkpearl-shi. I apologize for interrupting you while you’re in the middle of your chat but I would like to have your attention please just for a while.” [Ayase]

Due to an event starting all of the sudden, all the invited guests were astir as they turned around.
Although I have done this numerous times when I was in the black company…… I wasn’t sure if this plan will be effective on people from the other world.

It might be somewhat pushy but the party in this world generally loves to push forward a conversation selfishly and moved on to another venue as they like in a crude manner so it shouldn’t be a problem for this now, probably.

Due to the amplifier, microphone and a mysterious person suddenly appearing, the guests were about to make a commotion but as soon as Shello-san announced it around, “Those are new magic items developed” the crowd immediately calmed down.

“Please take a look at the entrance of this meeting place. I have ordered this from another country for the sake of today. A bouquet of white rose. The white rose represents「Respect」. With great respect, I will represent Erishe citizen to present this flower to our mayor. The mayor usually doesn’t accept gifts but please do make a concession only for today!” [Ayase]

The bouquet of white rose was something that I have brought over from the other side (Japan). It was seriously difficult to get such a highly bred flower from this world the price is highly expensive too. Well, it was also pretty expensive on the other side.

The invited guests did not seem to question this event in particular too. When I was asking the mayor to make a concession only for today, I could hear soft laughter coming from the crowd so there didn’t seem to be any problem.

The one holding the flowers is a middle-aged man clad smartly in a black suit. Rebecca-san was waiting there up ahead.

The mayor was even more stunned at the sight of the man there than the flowers. “Dear…” I could hear the mayor muttering it in a low voice.

The middle-aged man who will be presenting the bouquet is naturally Bill Lindenlaub, her husband.

The suit was prepared just for today and his hair and beard were neatly trimmed too.
I would be troubled if he pulled back at the very last moment so I have asked Rebecca-san to go pick him up in advance.

No, but, until this guy agreed to participate in this, we have already been going back and forth between two places daily for the entire week. There is a probability that he was still feeling hesitant but since he has already come so far, he has no choice but to do his best from here.

Although, he might have not like standing out too much so his face was beet red. I felt slightly sorry for him.

Then the two of them faced each other.

The bouquet is presented to the mayor and all the guest burst into applause.

“……This necklace, was something made by you right? This heripai motif, is so nostalgic……At that time, after master rejected your work, it's something that you have been doing as a pastime isn't it?" [Milkpearl]

"…..Aa. It's nostalgic isn't it. That guy was able to tell that the design I created was amateurish just by a glance. Thanks to that I was able to recall various things about work from the past." [Bill]

"Fufufu, for him to be able to coax you and get you to come to a place like this….I wonder if you might have been deceived into this." [Milkpearl]

There could still be some room to spare but since it's Milkpearl-san, this event might have been the perfect surprise.

Even before or after marriage, Bill's priority has been his work. He holds great pride as a craftsman but unfortunately he is a reticent husband and has never given any present to his wife. Milkpearl-san was often away too due to her political works. I have heard that there were a lot of days when they just passed by each other somehow.

And the distance between them that grew apart was somehow accepted naturally. From their current conversation, it appears that they really respected each other more than what people think so it never had anything to do with their diminishing love or anything else to begin with.

What I saw in the Mirror of Truth was Bill's vocation; Craftsman.
During the first day of our visit, he came out in an apron. I have assumed that his workplace is in the house and most of the time he receives custom request and sell them so as basis he is working as a craftsman.

He has shown me several of his creations such as metal engraving, the creation of knife handle, implantation of letter decorations onto the blade, engraving designs on metal armours, creation of simple accessories, *etc.* All in all, the various things that he has shown me were made skilfully.
Among them, as expected the metal engraving skill is really amazing to the point that I feel like monopolizing this person so I could sell them in Japan. My detestable business intentions have somehow got the better of me again.

Of course the base of the necklace was made by Bill-shi himself. Despite being a master at metal engraving, he has not even given her a single thing that he has make himself after marriage. I'm seriously amazed with him. But well, if he did then the current plan might not have work.

Well then, there should still be more to this event. Let’s go rapidly. There is a saying that we should strike while the iron is hot.

“Now ladies and gentlemen, about the identity of this gentleman who will be presenting the bouquet, I think there is not one person who doesn’t know who this man is. Regardless I will still be introducing him. He is Milkpearl-san’s husband, Bill Lindenlaub. At this day, we have finally hit Erishe’s 50th anniversary. Towards the wife who has been working hard for the sake of public, I have given him the suggestion to present her a gift as gratitude but it will still be up to him to grasp the opportunity.” [Ayase]

The introduction was done in one go in a somewhat dramatize way. 「Is that…..」「It’s my first time seeing him but doesn’t he look like a kind looking husband」「In the first place, was the mayor married already?…..」Those were reactions between the invited guests that could be heard after the introduction was made.

“Bill-san’s occupation is a craftsman. Right now he will be giving the mayor a spirit stone necklace that he has poured all his heart into making. The spirit stone is, the feelings of worry from the husband that he wants to convey to his wife so he has added in『Illness dispersal』as an addition for the protection of his wife. In addition, the spirit stone chosen called Peridot also carries the meaning『Marital Love』so isn’t this the most suitable gift for the two hottest couple in Erishe after their 30 years of marriage?” [Ayase]

The voltage of the spectator gradually increases too. Basically since a majority of them were in quite drunken state, this event must be really interesting to them. Although I was quite concern about Shello-san who was clapping his hand excitedly there in the front row, I’ll just ignore it since it will make the event livelier!

“Actually I have been entrusted this letter to keep by Bill-san. The content consists of words of appreciation towards his wife but since he was embarrassed to read it out on his own, he has entrusted it to me.” [Ayase]

Milkpearl-san was surprised.

Bill-san was even more surprised.

Of course they would be. That is because I have not been entrusted with any letter at all. It was something that I have jotted down in a memo based on components that I have heard of then constructed it beautifully into a letter without permission. I did have a hard time since I didn't have enough information.

"So I will then read it with your permission…….To my dear wife. I am not much of a good talker so I could express out all my feelings of appreciation to you. In such a way, I ended up picking up my brush. 30 years ago, I remember the time when the both of us ate the heripai. At that time after forcing you to eat the heripai, you were feeling bad and refused to do so due to the cute appearance. I was recalling that incident while making this necklace. However, once you tried it, it was surprisingly tasty for you so you ended up eating them joyfully more than me. I could only say this now but, when I have thought of marrying you, to be honest it was because your appearance at that time was seriously cute. You might have not known it. After we got married, you've done so much for the sake of Erishe and you've always been doing your best. Being the one closest to you and the one watching you all the time, I was supposed to understand it the most. I couldn't get my feelings of gratitude across really well but I was really proud for being your husband…….But 30 years have passed as well. Since then we have not gone to Heripa Village even once. Both of us have aged and our daughter will soon age by another year too. Let's go to Heripa Village again one day. I'd like to eat as much heripai as I can and get bloated to the extent of not being able to move. I'll be really glad if you are happy with the necklace. Bill Lindenlaub" [Ayase]

The entire place was suddenly surrounded by thunderous applause.

A letter reading play was directed. On earth, this type of setting is quite stereotypical already but in the other world, it's a state-of-the-art. Even the invited Madame guests were also in tears.
Although I was quite concern about Shello-san who was shedding manly tears there in the front row, I'll just ignore it since it will make the event livelier!

The letter seems to be effective on Milkpearl-san as expected too. Her eyes were moist with tears and she was staring at Bill with feverish gaze.

However, Bill-san was bewildered. This is bad. It seemed to have exceeded the level of his tolerance!

“Then Bill Lindenlaub-san shall present his wife the necklace. Bill-san, please put on the necklace for your wife.” [Ayase]

On hearing my words, he received the necklace from Milkpearl-san’s hand and awkwardly tries to put on the necklace around the other party’s neck. His face was pale possibly because he was too tensed but I’ll just pretend that I didn’t see that.

Once the invited guests noticed the necklace on Milkpearl-san, somehow they ended up wanting to haunt for the same treasure by all means.

A sparkling elegant looking olive green jewel and a pale shining gold necklace. Once worn paired with Milkpearl-san’s natural elegant look, the shine on the necklace looks more exquisite than ever.

Bill-shi still has final remaining job that he needs to do. I put away the microphone before speaking to Bill-shi.

“After putting on the necklace, say this final thing to your wife. This is the final closure. I’ll be counting on you.” [Ayase]

As I have said so, Bill-shi who made his mind turned towards Milkpearl-san.
I secretly moved to Bill-shi’s place with a microphone.

“…….Thank you for what you’ve done all these 30 years. Please treat me well from now on.” [Bill]

Then the both of them embraced each other.

Aa, I just remember this place is similar to western countries. If this were Japan, I don’t think they will be hugging. However, Bill-shi……it’s seriously just brief words?

Thus the voltage of the place was turned up to max. Iya~a, I’m glad that the guest enjoyed the event. This is how a WIN WIN relationship should be.
A smile somehow floated over my face too.

After that, as long as I got the final word from mayor, it’ll be completed.
Well, the both of them seemed to have entered a world of their own so I will take a break for the time being.

But when I went to a table to grab a juice to drink, I noticed the elf guy that was brought by Jephthah-shi standing at the corner of the party ground.

Ah I did think that he will be coming so I didn’t worry too much about it.

Next to the elf guy is someone dressed in a loose green robe. The hood was worn over the eyes and the entire body is covered up. I couldn’t see the face but it felt like our eyes have met.

At that very moment, my vocation board appeared, the light shined brighter than usual indicating my new guidance received.

No, the ??? line has changed.

【Guidance of Baraka】

・Fulfil the promise with the Imperial Trader 2/3

・The Fate of the Giant Swing　8/10

(TL: The Fate of the Giant Swing was previously the one with ???????)

Chapter 018 – The heripai has the smell of an eel

“Milkpearl-san. How was it? Will you accept the gift?” [Ayase]

“Fufufu, of course I will accept it……Thank you.” [Milkpearl]

“Above all, I’m glad that you like it. It was worth all the preparations made.” [Ayase]

“I am seriously happy. For that person to be thinking of it this way, I would have never expected it before. If you have not done this, I might not know it even for a lifetime….It’s really the best feeling now.” [Milkpearl]

As she said so, she touched the shining necklace around her neck. I replied back “It’s my honour” and turned around to see Jephthah-shi standing there.

No matter how you see it, this match is my win. Get it. With this I will getting an elf.

“That was splendid, Jirou-san. I would have never expected you to some up with this. This is my complete defeat isn’t it?” [Jephthah]

“To be honest, it was partly due to luck too. But the mayor seems really happy so I’m glad with it too.” [Ayase]

“True. I don’t think there will be other gifts that will make her as delighted as this. I will use this as my reference too from now on.” [Jephthah]

“Hahaha do your best in it. The most important thing is to understand feelings of the other side.” [Ayase]

“I see. So it’s important to take the other party’s feelings into account.” [Jephthah]

“Yes yes…..By the way, this match is my win…..That means, you’ll be giving me an e-elf right? I’m not being set up right?” [Ayase]

“Of course since I’ve promised it. We’ve signed a contract too so I will definitely hand over the elf. But we need to make the preparations on the handing over. After about 2 yuruka, we will be ready so do enjoy yourself in the

festival first. I will come pick you up again.” [Jephthah]
(TL: yuruka is how they tell the time here. Similar to hours)

“I understand. I will be looking forward to it.” [Ayase]

Then I parted from Jephthah-shi for the time being.

I wonder what I should prepare. In order to hand her over to me, they might be dressing her up in beautiful clothes. Maybe they might put makeup on her too.

Should I get her to call me, 「Goshujinsama」 or 「Danna-sama」? Possibly 「Aruji-sama」 or 「Jirou-sama」 is hard to pass by too. Aa, there’s also the option for 「Oniichan」. I’ve always wanted a younger sister since I’m the youngest in my family! Nn? Don’t get me wrong! It’s healthy thoughts! It’s totally healthy thoughts alright!

Iya~a, but, ueeeeeee, my dream is getting larger.
I ended up drinking too much unintentionally!!

There’s still quite some time before Jephthah-shi returns so I will need to give my gratitude to Rebecca-san and Shello-san too.

I wasn’t sure if Rebecca-san is familiar with most people in the city but she was already chatting happily with the invited guests who seemed like her acquaintances. Shello-san seemed to be making conversation with the invited guests too…….or should I say, making a foolish commotion there. Shello-san seems like the type who would easily end up making boring speeches when he gets drunk. Well the sake here certainly is delicious so I know how it is when you ended up drinking too much. On the other hand, I am getting slightly drunk here myself too.

The gratitude to Shello-san, I am determined to forget about it completely by tomorrow.
For now, I’ll just thank Rebecca-san today.

“Thank you for your hard work today. Rebecca-san had to work on so many different things today for my sake so thank you very much. Thanks to you I managed to present the gift successfully.” [Ayase]

Probably due to the fruit wine, Rebecca-san’s cheek that was slightly flushed made her look rather seductive. Since her hairstyle is different than usual and she even puts on makeup today, it somehow makes my heart throbs even more. To the extent of even going to *that* place under the influence of alcohol.

“Thanks for your hard work, Jirou. I didn’t expect it to be this lively. In fact, I was initially sceptical of it when I heard it from you.” [Rebecca]

“No, it was also a gamble so I wasn’t sure if it will go well. I only had a vague premonition that it might turn out to be alright.” [Ayase]

“Is that so? Unexpectedly you seemed similar to a chairperson of a temple that we entered before though. I was really touched with the letter’s content too…… Come to think of it, I haven’t eaten it for some time too, heripai.” [Rebecca]

“What kind of thing is a heripai actually? To be honest I actually don’t know what that is.” [Ayase]

“On the north side, there is a lake there at a place called Heripa lake. At that place…..there are cute looking wriggling fishes? Something like that. It’s really hard to handle it but once you apply oil on it, it’s delicious.” [Rebecca]

“I see. I do want to try eating it even once. Is Heripa lake far from here?” [Ayase]

“It’s roughly about 2 days journey if you take a horse-drawn carriage from Erishe I guess. There is a town nearby the lake too. There’s also a cute inn and it’s really a beautiful place.” [Rebecca]

I wonder if it’s something like a tourist attraction in the other world. At a place where a young couple makes an order, after eating the heripa they gain some stamina for *that,* then during night time will be their *heripativity*?

It will be fine even if it is more indecent. ｢Yes….Just swallow it as it is. My heripai…. ｣Was something that I had wanted to try saying.
I wonder if I can go there for a honeymoon with the elf girl. ｢Goshujinsama’s heripai is raging, please put it in my trembling *(The rest is omitted)* ｣

“…….Let’s go there the next time, Jirou.” [Rebecca]

"………Eh? Ah yes. It will be fun if we go there with everyone else together." [Ayase]
(TL: We have a dense MC as usual)

"True" she answered lightly then laughed mysteriously.

After I accumulated some money, it wouldn't be a bad idea to treat those two to a trip.

This time Rebecca-san in particular has really helped out a lot in various things so I have offered to pay her a fee as compensation for her time but as expected she refused to accept them.

But I couldn't leave it as it is. When I had asked her on the reason she was taking such good care of me, she replied.

"We are both beings who have met due to the『Guidance of Baraka』so this is a fate blessed by the great spirit. It's a possibility of a lifelong friend, don't you know? So, we are already friends. I'm just doing whatever I can to help a friend." [Rebecca]

I see. When she said that we are friends I am honestly happy, but I still need to do something to convey my gratitude………I'll try preparing it properly.

"Rebecca-san. You did say that you refuse to accept a gift even after helping me out so much……..however I'll apologize in advance but please accept this." [Ayase]

The present I gave Rebecca-san is, a ring made from a large drop of garnet. A red gem will be really matching with Rebecca-san's beautiful red hair too and it was something that was personally chosen from my handheld goods.
The base of this was also produced by Bill-shi. The peridot earlier was made for free but this was also made for free! Although I did forcibly plead him.

The ring portion is silver, the clasp is gold and the shell where the red gem is placed was intricately carved. Somehow it looks really cool as it was similar to Art Nouveau style. It might not look nice on a Japanese with plain looking face since it looks way too flashy but this will look really nice on Rebecca-san.

It was not enchanted of course. Or rather, the Peridot that Milkpearl-san received has become something similar to spirit stone now and I have given my spirit stone (Quartz) to Priestess-chan to enchant for the time being too. I had actually wanted to enchant this garnet too but as expected I could not offer a largess of spirit stones here. I could only have another 2.

There is of course a ring case available since it was also something that was brought over from Japan. With just 1000 yen, I can already purchase one with a superior quality. Nowadays, I could find them sold even in 100 yen shop but since this will be a gift, as expected I shouldn't be getting those.

Will she firmly refuse to accept it again? That was what I thought but for some reason she accepted it obediently this time. As I continued describing the details of the ring without stopping, she was listening quietly without saying anything.

Nn? I wonder what is wrong. Does she not really like it?

"Etto……Is it not of your preference?" [Ayase]

"Aa, uun. No-no it's nothing like that. Ahaha, thank you." [Rebecca]

"No I'm glad if you like it. I am not sure if the size will fit but please try it. I think it should fit nicely on the middle finger." [Ayase]

I did not measure the size in advance so I had to depend on Bill-shi's estimation and insight instead.

"Then, here" [Rebecca]

As she said so she passed the ring back to me then held out her left hand.

Nn? What does that mean?

Eh, does she want me to wear it for her? Rebecca-san must be considerably drunk. Will there be any problem if I do this? In the presence of so many people in public?…..
Well it's fine then. Shello-san seemed to have started dancing on the other side anyway. Let's put this aside since it was due to the effect of the liquor!

"Then please pardon me." [Ayase]

Though if I put it on the ring finger instead of the middle finger….Stop, I shouldn't let the alcohol get the better of me! It can't enter! Since there are no other options, I put it on the ring finger.

I don’t think there should be a custom in wearing a ring on the left ring finger in this other world but, they might probably be unrelated.

“Thank you! I will treasure this!” [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san said with a smile while holding the ring. Although she usually gives off a feeling akin to an older sister, she somehow looks younger now or rather, she suddenly became cute. I might still be slightly drunk from earlier…….

I-I might end up falling for her~~~.

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Exactly after 2 hours, Jephthah-shi finally returns.

Alright, I can finally kick-off. My heart is throbbing excitedly. I think I might need to go pee first.

“Jirou-san, sorry to keep you waiting. Since the agreement to hand over the elf has been signed, we’ll be going to the trading house. Would you be able to come with us?” [Jephthah]

“Ah yes. Thank you. I will be bringing a companion with me, will that be alright?” [Ayase]

“Yes that’s not a problem.” [Jephthah]

Thus, I headed towards the same slave trading house the other day that I was afraid of entering, together with Rebecca-san who insisted in accompanying me.

I wonder if this is something like a negotiation room. I was asked to wait for a moment so I ended up waiting inside with Rebecca-san.

……This is bad. It might be due to anticipating it too much or I’m feeling uneasy or that I just had too much drink just now, with all of those mixed in, it makes me feel like throwing up slightly……..

To be honest, I am still unable to grasp the concept of slave here yet or you could say that I still couldn’t get myself to face it. Could it be that, I was still unable to fully understand the reality of this world yet?

Now that I have come this far, I could only try understanding it as much as I can from now on. There are no other choices except to keep advancing. Go myself! Advance straight ahead!

“Go! Myself!” [Ayase]

“W-…..What’s wrong all of the sudden, Jirou?” [Rebecca]

“Ah, no, I’m just urging myself. Having a slave of my own actually still scares me.” [Ayase]

“It’ll be all right. That’s because a slave is bound by a lifetime employment contract. Ah a sex slave is a different thing though.” [Rebecca]

“…………………” [Ayase]

“Eh, why are you suddenly so quiet?…… Could it be…..it’s for such a thing?” [Rebecca]

“No, I did not actually affirm it, speaking of” [Ayase]

The silent time slowly pass by somehow.
Isn’t it fine! It’s not like it really matters! Any guys will yearn for that! I didn’t particular say that I wanted a pretty one! I want a sex slave!

“It’s not a sex slave, Jirou-san.”

Said Jephthah-shi from the gap of the door. Please do not suddenly scare me with that double meaning! Nn? Not a sex slave?

Un……well that’s true.
I understand it! I understand it! I understand that it will not be something good like that!

“That was because there wasn’t *that* kind of promise this time. I do not intend to trick you but I have heard that Jirou-san is fine as long as it’s an elf girl. I don’t deny the fact that I was afraid to bring that up though.” [Jepthah]

“No of course there isn’t any problem. There is definitely no problem-nyo.” [Ayase]

This is bad. The end of my words sounded strange a bit. B-b-being upset is strange!

“Then…..we’re ready here as well. We’ll bring her in now.” [Jephthah]

“Ah yes. Thank you.” [Ayase]

The matter about sex slave aside, I can finally meet the elf girl.

I’m feeling so tense that I seriously felt like throwing up. My heart is beating so fast now, probably at the rate of 120 beats per minute currently. Fortunately, I have gradually sobered up.
But I was glad that I was able to have a drink! Although I might end up fainting if I was sober.

The first to enter was Jephthah-shi then the followed by the elf guy.

“Here it is. Please come in” Jephthah-shi called out.

An elf girl walks in the room with an air of composure.

Her long hair looks beautiful and smooth in a mixture of velvet and impressive platinum colour, the length is extended to the waist and the tip is tied up in a knot.

She is not really considered sensual looking but has a well-balanced style instead. Her height is lower than me. I wonder if it’s about the same as Priestess-chan.
Although her face is much smaller than the elf guy, it is longer than his. She also has slightly drooping ears.

She’s wearing a pendant which might possibly be a spirit stone, a pair of bracelets and anklets. Her clothing is a pure white dress made out of silk, decorated with embroideries and laces.

On top of that, red and pale green tattoos in geometrical shapes could be seen on most parts of her exposed skin. It was probably tattooed to the entire body……. Her face also looks perfect, more towards the cute look but all in all a transcendent beauty. Although the impact of the tattoo might be too strong causing my brain cells to stop working for a brief second.

While I was taken aback there, Rebecca-san whispered softly to me.

“Jirou…….it sounded like a suspicious story from the beginning but…. white haired elf……that child is…..a high elf……..An elf royalty.” [Rebecca]

Chapter 019 – The high elf has the smell of favoritism

Even if you were to say High Elf……

Does a high elf usually wear this type of tattoo or is it a race that usually wears a tattoo?….. Damn, she does give off a feeling similar to priestess-chan but isn't the aspect considerably different now……..

But I wonder if tattooed woman also exists in this world. There are hardly any opportunities to see real tattoos in Japan so the impact is much too strong wa~. Will I be getting this person as my slave…….. I wonder what kind of feeling is this…….

Moreover, an elf royalty……..

The three damn people with serious faces are currently sitting in front of me. Jephthah-shi, Elf guy and High Elf Girl in tattoo.

….Oi, why isn't anyone saying anything! The High Elf Girl in tattoo was staring at me since just now so it was seriously unbearable!

"*cough* Aren't you going to say anything, Jirou-san?" [Jephthah-shi]

That was my line! What should I do now.

"…..Then, shall I explain in order? This person here is Diana-san. In fact, Diana-san is not a normal elf, she's actually from the high elf family…….. In a nutshell, it's something like a royal elf. High elves usually don't come down here much at all so they don't have substantial authority. Not many people know about them too." [Jephthah]

I see……Though they are not known much by people, Rebecca-san seemed to know about them to a great extent. However, a royalty is it. How did a royalty end up becoming a slave?…….
If only it's a normal slave instead………Or rather, I would have preferred it if it was a normal slave……

"Your face is full of doubts there, Jirou-san. I do understand your feeling but please lend us an ear……..Does Jirou-san believe in fate?” [Jephthah]

What on earth is this guy saying all of the sudden.
I wasn’t sure if I should be giving a positive response or at a loss on what to answer but Jephthah-shi doesn’t seem to worry about it much and continued talking.

“High Elves race was said to be a race that is most loved by『The Great Spirit Le Baraka that is in control of fate』. And, each of them from that race will receive a『Special Guidance』 that happens only once in their lifetime. That guidance is a seriously special one if you can understand…….. Then by chance, a certain human that was related to it got involved so we were forced to make a move in order to achieve it before the person in question realizes it. If I were to say this in a better way, we were guided to that fated place.” [Jephthah]

It’s the leadedbytheguidance thingy isn’t it? I understand.
Since I am a merchant so I’m like a Maneki-neko? You are way off there~

“……..By the way Jirou-san, I’m curious but why did you accept such a dubious match?” [Jephthah]

“That’s because……I somehow didn’t feel that I would lose……wait in other words?” [Ayase]

“I have actually not confirmed it myself yet and honestly I’m not certain of it either even now but there is a high possibility that Jirou-san was already involved in it at that point of time.” [Jephthah]

“Etto, in other words, the special guidance? What is the content of that guidance? If I’m already involved in it then there should be a way to conclude this right?” [Ayase]

“It was already determined that the content of the guidance must not be told to anyone.” [Diana]

The High Elf girl suddenly spoke up. Oh such a cute voice.

“Yes. It’s just as what Diana-san has said. It has already been decided that the content of the special guidance must not be known by others. However, it’s possible for you to make a guess. Her previous course of action was probably,『Become a slave』.” [Jephthah]

“There should be a clearer content than this.” [Ayase]

“It’s a secret.” [Jephthah]

Is that so. If it’s a secret then it can’t be helped.

“From there, we didn’t actually know what was the next step to take but usually one would naturally think that『Find a person to serve as a slave』would be the closest idea that comes next. And, at that very moment I encountered Jirou……..That is what I call a fateful encounter. The reason I proposed that match was due to this.” [Jephthah]

“So………I was approached with that bet because you believed that I was the candidate whom Diana-san was meant to serve? Then you didn’t necessarily need to challenge me to a match, am I right?” [Ayase]

“As I have said so earlier, I wasn’t really certain of it since I’m just one of a minor merchant only……I will make a move while making sure that I will be getting as much profit as I can at the same time too.” [Jephthah]

“…………?” [Ayase]

“The matter relating to the match though……If Jirou-san is somehow involved in this, regardless of the actions that you might have taken, you will definitely end up sitting with us here today. All these course of actions have already been determined from that very moment we met. Fate will always lead us to where we are meant to be without fail. That is the compelling force of the High Elf’s guidance.” [Jephthah]

“Nn? Could you possibly break that explanation up a bit and make it clearer? I didn’t really get the main points…..” [Ayase]

“True….. In other words, by the end of the day, the mayor would somehow be happy anyway and accept your gift regardless of what you might have given her. This is what I meant when I have said that you were already entangled in this.” [Jephthah]

All my 15 days of effort have been for nothing!
How much do you think I’ve spent already!

“What I meant was, regardless of being entangled or not being entangled in it, you were challenged with a match that does not seem to be of disadvantage to you…..Well, I was surprised though since I had not expected you to present such an elaborated gift there. And it turns up, even if you weren't involved in that guidance from the start, there might be a possibility that you will win the match anyhow. This is the reason why I'm still unable to confirm if you really are the person whom we are looking for yet till now." [Jephthah]

"Regardless of winning or losing, this was still a profit gaining match for Jephthah-san, wasn't it? I'm not sure what kind of deal you have been making with the mayor behind my back but just let me know by all means…….However, she…..I mean won't you experience any loss for handing Diana-san over to me?" [Ayase]

"…..No, that is actually the biggest profit." [Jephthah]

Aa, is that so? I felt like all my efforts have been wasted a little now.

"Actually rather than the Solo house supporting this『Special Guidance』, it was actually the other way round. We have received an agreement from the High Elf race to cooperate with them. The journey has developed considerably well so the guidance should be achieved soon. When that happens, both the Solo house and I will also obtain the biggest benefit here." [Jephthah]

I see…….so there were interests involved in this already. I have previously labelled him a playboy of my own accord but he is unexpectedly a go-getter.

The final picture of this match that Jephthah-shi drew was…..even if I wasn't the one guided by the spirit and ended up losing the match, he will still be able to obtain 10 spirit stones. And if I wasn't the one guided by the spirit but ended up winning somehow too, he will still gain the interest from the dealings with the mayor. However if I am the one guided by the spirit, I will definitely be winning this match so not only will he receive the benefits from the mayor's side but also yield the profit from the High Elf's side since their guidance was able to advance.

I suddenly recalled that the elf guy did mention it before the spirit agreement was made. That regardless who ended up losing, they will not be in any disadvantage in any way.

……well, I did not encounter any loss for the time being so it's good for now. I had a feeling that things are slightly rolling off for the better.

However….I wonder if it is possible for people to receive a guidance that leads them to becoming a slave. The Great Spirit is way too harsh.

“……But is Diana-san, a slave? If I had not turn up here would you be fine even if she was sold to someone else? If she were sold off then would you just consider it as a part of the fate too?” [Ayase]

“I think I did mention it before when we first met. It was when I said I wasn’t able to come to a so-called compromise with the other party…….There were several circumstances, but the biggest one was still, 『If you had done anything strange to the High Elf, it might develop into critical racial problems』. That was the main point that I have included inside. Jirou-san, please be careful of this too.” [Jephthah]

“Strange…..as in?” [Ayase]

“Once she becomes his personal slave, it’s possible to make her into a sex slave too. That is what most thought. It is really common for something like this to happen. So if the slave ended up filing a complaint against their master or even if they kept quiet about it, it’s usually fine either way…….But, we couldn’t afford to let anything similar happen for our case this time. That is what I meant.” [Jephthah]

“I-I see….” [Ayase]

There is always something else hidden undersurface whenever you receive a good deal but, there are too much things undersurface now! Actually, almost all the details are hidden undersurface!

“…….Then what are the other circumstances?” [Ayase]

“This might be hard to say it right in front of the person herself but….First with regards to her appearance, majority of people wouldn’t be able to accept someone with patterns all of their body. The spirit magic is also only limited to the extent of only usable for the 『Special Guidance』. In addition, she’s a royalty. In other words, the most important point is that she has never done any work that is usually done by common servants.” [Jephthah]

Oh…………。

(TL: The ‘Oh’ is in English in the raw)

Another world's princess that will only be a hindrance becoming a slave….is this some kind of an eroge? Even through the atmosphere, I understood that she's actually someone whom I shouldn't put my hands on since it'll cause a racial issue. In addition, she has an appearance of a tattoo girl, could only use spirit magic occasionally and she couldn't even cook or clean!

Jephthah might be quite rude with his remarks since she is quite cute. But there do seem to be a huge gap with the impressions given due to the tattoo.

However…….., wasn't I just looking for an escort from the other world who can help me read?

No……, it might have been my bad since I was the one who have greedily wished for an elf as slave. Something like as long as it's an elf it'll be fine! My state of mind was undeniable.

Or rather, it has somehow given me the feeling that I should accept her as an escort now regardless. Gununu.

I wasn't sure what kind of expressions I had on my look at that time, but Diana who has been staring at me the whole time when I was having a conversation with Jephthah-shi finally voiced out.

"It's all right, goshujinsama. Once the guidance is over, everyone will receive good things from it too. So, please treat me well from now on." [Diana]

Ayase Jirou's brain trial

(TL: he is having a conflict in his brain)

"Ee~, although this is sudden, I would like to conduct the 754th brain trial now. The subject of the trial this time is 『What should be done now? Is it pardonable? Seriously what should be done now? Should we just escape?』"

"Guilty. That bastard Jephthah. He's seriously a fiend. If this is converted to Japanese yen it'll be the same as using 700,000 yen!"

"Guilty. My dream of having a love-dovey H life with an elf girl is totally crushed now to the point of losing all hope and I don't even know if I should continue living on from now on. I’m currently crying!”

“Guilty. I just wanted to own a slave with a lighter feeling but the once in a lifetime huge quest is too heavy for me to bear~”

“Guilty. I would prefer if the girl has bigger breasts.”

“No wait, hold on you guys. I understand all your feelings now but what did the girl say just now? Didn’t she just say goshujinsama? That is right, we have already become her goshujinsama! It’s already forgivable with just that word alone! Not guilty!”

“Judgement. Somewhere in the corner of this other world, I have a feeling that everything will be forgivable as long as she calls us goshujinsama .”

Brain trial end

“……….Jephthah-san. Hasn’t it come across your mind that I might refuse to take her as a slave when you are exposing so much negative information to me?” [Ayase]

Although I have no intention of backing out actually.

Putting aside the issue of the tattoo, High Elf-chan has a great style and is cute too. The chest might be regrettable but her bottom is good! Her legs are long and her hair is also beautiful. Well, if she could put on a little more flesh, there’s no need for that too.

Eh? Or could the compelling force of the guidance be affecting my current feelings too?

“No, it doesn’t come across me. Although I’m forbidden to tell the reason, you will not be able to give up on this contract anymore. If not, you wouldn’t have performed the spirit contract. 『If you win, you’ll receive the elf girl from me』. Besides, haven’t you indicated this clearly this before? It’s your dream to obtain an elf.” [Jephthah]

“Nn? It’ll be a breach of contract if I do not receive it then? It’s slightly ambiguous there.” [Ayase]

“That’s right. It’s ambiguous……..It might unexpectedly not be a breach of contract though. Would you like to try it?” [Jephthah]

“……Aa, I’ll refrain myself.” [Ayase]

Bad. Jephthah seriously has a bad personality.

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After that, I performed the spirit contract with Diana, the high elf, signed the receipt and completed the contract without any incident.

I tried checking out the content by calling out my vocation board.

【Spirits Contract】

The outline of the slave contract between Jirou Ayase and Diana Runaabera

-Diana may work in moderation as a slave owned by Jirou.
-As someone who owns Diana, it is Jirou’s responsibility to endeavour to ensure that Diana can live without excess and deficiency.
-The annulment of this contract can be done only under the agreement of both and it is possible to be carried out anytime.
-If this contract is not fulfilled, Jirou who doesn’t carry out the agreement will lose his blessing.

….Hmm?
Eh? Isn’t it kind of biased? Aren’t I the one who is at a disadvantage?
Isn’t it significantly different than the content of the contract that we were talking about a while ago!?

“…..Aa, Jirou-san. I have forgotten to mention it just now. When you make a contract with a High Elf, the spirit will certainly make a drastic dramatization arbitrarily so please be careful. Fufufu.” [Jephthah]

Look! That joyful look on Jephthah’s face! This is not just at the level of dramatization!

“Aa~……..With this I’m already a slave….. I’ll be forced to walk around the city with a collar attached to my neck by goshujinsama, isn’t it……Then I’ll be placed in a show booth…… Aa,….goshujinsamaaa is being impolite…..”

A strange delusion is coming out from someone’s mouth here!! Just keep your mouth shut there!!

Chapter 020 – The slave escort has the smell of an outcast

The contents of the agreement that Jephthah has decided with Diana were, 「Diana must obey Jirou's order (anything sexual is excluded). Only Jirou has the right to annul the contract. Jirou must take care of Diana's daily basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. The party who breached the contract will lose the blessing of the spirit」. That was supposed to be the actual decided contract. Strictly speaking there were finer details included but these are the rough idea of it……but now…….

Even though the one carrying out the spirit contract was the elf guy, he swore that he has not altered any part of contract details at all.

Or rather, the purpose of holding hands when the spirit magic was used was actually to prevent the alteration of the content from being carried out. Even if there happened to be any falsification during the contract magic, if the other party whom you are holding the hand with does not accept the content, the magic will be repelled too.

However, it was just like what Jephthah had mentioned. When we make a spirit contract with a High Elf, even though it was not the intention of the High Elf herself, the spirit will still arbitrarily make changes to the content making it more advantageous to the High Elf.

In addition, this event only occurs with a High Elf but not with an ordinary elf…… I wonder if this was actually the biggest reason why he wasn't able to sell off this fellow to those people under reservations……..

Well, in the end, I wasn't able to obtain anything that will be useful for my future plans in this other world but was forced to carry more unnecessary burdens on my back instead.

Once I get used to seeing that tattoo it might look cute soon and it does kind of portray an auspicious looking colour presently. Although, I wasn't able to feel

honestly happy about it even when I have finally obtained my long awaited elf somehow.
But, why did this special guidance choose me of all the people…….

I had a feeling that I was totally cheated by Jephthah too.
After all I'm just a NEET here so a full-fledged bargaining is impossible for me. That was supposed to be the case….

But, I have a feeling that I wouldn't be satisfied if I don't make that guy suffer a little loss too. I wonder if I can come up with a good idea……..

….Well for the time being I'll just confirm all the minor details then look for a breakthrough plan from there!

"Jephthah-san. The contract content aside, my contact with Diana-san has been completed but Solo house's agreement to cooperate with Diana-san's guidance is still in effect, am I right?" [Ayase]

"Yes. Naturally until the guidance has been achieved we will be providing the backups." [Jephthah]

The backup seems to be still in effect.

If I do not make use of this backup as much as I can, my blessing will be in danger.
「To ensure that Diana can live without excess and deficiency」. I do own a house for the time being but I don't have anything else. I don't have much money now too.

For the most part, I've been staying at Shello-san's house the entire time in this other world……..I haven't even stayed at the inn yet……

"……Then would you be able to accommodate us with slave that would be able to act as our escort?…. Diana-san, try asking him too." [Ayase]

"Goshujinsama is being too formal there. It's fine even if you do not attach -san to my name, isn't it?" [Diana]

Diana said with upturned eyes.

Don't give that cute look. We're still considered as strangers on emotional level! If you don't ask him personally, I wouldn't be able to tell him that it's a necessity for Diana!

“Aa…..come to think of it, you did tell me that you were looking for a slave as escort when we first met. I completely forgot about it after due to the shock when you told me that you wanted an elf.” [Jephthah]

After the contract is completed, Jephthah has become questionably frank all of the sudden…….well it’s fine either way.

“Yes. I do want one previously for the sake of my business but currently I think that it’s a necessity as an escort for Diana-san too. So how about it?” [Ayase]

“I hope to ask your help on this too, Jephthah. Goshujinsama doesn’t have any resourcefulness currently.” [Diana]

This child just casually threw the poison out. I’ll definitely punish her later. I will definitely do so!

“Yeah, I don’t mind it if it’s just the matter about the slaves for escort. We’re at the slave trading house now anyway.” [Jephthah]

“……You seemed to have given your consent fairly fast. Although I did say I wanted a slave for escort, aren’t they actually quite expensive?” [Ayase]

“They are definitely not cheap but it couldn’t be helped if it’s necessary…… Above all Jirou-san has been the one working hard this time. I’ll feel bad if I’m the only one gaining from this so please think of this as a service.” [Jephthah]

Each and every words of his seemed to piss me off!
But I wonder why I couldn’t get myself to hate him completely till now. Could it be the natural impression from a *bonbon*? Rather than being devious, I had a feeling that Jephthah is more on the mischievous side.
But how do I put it, as the both of us are also the youngest child, the intuition kept coming in intensely. This will certainly not go along well.

“Then I’ll try asking the proprietor of this place for a while. Although since there is not much demand for slaves as escort, you might not have much selections.” [Jephthah]

Jephthah said so as he left the room.

Slave as escort……is it. If I were to make a contract with another new slave

here, I would also have to earn more for an additional person.
I wonder if I had completely swapped to this other world by making this as base now and was just forced to move along without any procurement…….

After confirming that Jephthah has left the room, Rebecca-san who has been watching the course of events in silence all this while finally spoke out.

"Hey…..Jirou, are you alright? If you want to annul the contract with that child, I will try to find a way to do something about it. If there is a mutual agreement from both sides you will be able to annul the contract, am I right? I am unrelated to the contract but…….I do know a few『methods to make someone do as told obediently』." [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san was looking at Diana with a really brutal gaze that hasn't been seen before till now.

Wa, scary.
Even the seemingly naturally air-headed Diana who wasn't timid ended up averting her gaze.

"……..Thank you very much Rebecca-san. But, I have given a thought about it myself. I was thinking if I could try doing my best without overexerting myself this time. At the very least, this girl would do her part and work in moderation as well….right?" [Ayase]

"I-I will definitely do my work properly! The spirit was the one who changed the contract arbitrarily so it wasn't my fault." [Diana]

"Fuun~…..that's true. Well, it's my principle to not interfere with a man's work as much as possible. But……Jirou, if you're ever in trouble just let me know alright?" [Rebecca]

"Yes. Thank you very much." [Ayase]

Rebecca-san is so dependable……But being too dependable at any time makes me feel like depending on her more……

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Jephthah returned after a while and told us that the escort slaves were gathered in another room so we were asked to go there instead to have a look.

I who was in a complete sobered up state then went to see the collection of slaves. Events that couldn't have happened during the modern days in Japan now began to happen one right after another……

Moreover, I would be purchasing one person from there……..

It's the other world, it's the other world! I might have been in a strangely high spirit all of the sudden……… Although, even if I were to say that this is a different world, this situation felt really insolent since we will be purchasing someone's whole life with money.

If I were a hero here, I might fight to eradicate all the slavery in this world. I wonder if there might have been these choices too………

But well, in the end I'm just a turkey after all…….
(TL:トルコturkey = a loser)

……Well now! Let's be practical and buy a busty slave girl! Yeah!

This is the place. The proprietor's trading house office is a roughly about 20 tatami mats in size with a really high ceiling. Several people who appeared to be slaves could be seen lined up together connected by a long rope inside.

Ah crap.

It's supposed to be natural but these, are seriously what slaves are like.

They were tied up with a rope, have similar dark gloomy eyes and wore the same pretty plain white clothing that look similar to tunics.

The races for each of the slaves are different but all of them are men. There are not only human slaves but also dwarves and beast people.

Heavy……..

smile "How is it? If you are fine with it, I can even explain each of their vocation and escort experience in depth for you?" The owner of the trading house began explaining the comparison in detail making the atmosphere even heavier for me.

I seriously have the urge to just select any of them and escape as soon as I can but they are all male slaves there.

I wonder if the existence of a *[young strong girl]* only happens in the fantasy world. I suddenly started hating this other world that kept shattering people's dream!

"What would you be doing, Jirou-san? If you are looking for escorts, you could probably select the one who is skilled in close combat, or the one who has past experience as a mercenary or even those who have registered themselves with the Hunter Guild. Those might be a good choice too. If anything I would recommend the dwarf there. He has an unusual vocation as 『Warrior』 too." [Jephthah]

So what should I do.

[Actually I prefer having female slaves]. It would be too embarrassing for me to say this now. *[…..are you sane?]* If I do voice my preference, he might say the same thing to me again.
Well, I'll try to think of a good excuse then…

My eyes met Diana's unexpectedly and I was hit by an idea. That's it!

"Let's see. To be honest, there is a first condition that must be met that as an escort……I require the escort to take care of this child too so it would be better for the slave to be a female of similar age to her if possible. As one would expect, it would be hard for robust looking men like them to be taking care of a young woman like her. So to somewhat compromise it, it would be fine as long as the female slave has a combat related experience. May I know if there are any that matches the criteria?" [Ayase]

Alright, a perfect logical reason! I'm even charmed by it myself.

On hearing my explanation, the owner of the slave trading house replied, "Ah is that so?" but for some reason Jephthah could be seen trying to suppress his laughter. It feels unpleasant. Damn, I don't care what to think of this guy anymore!

"Then we shall prepare young female slaves with combat related vocations then. Our apologies but please wait for a while." [owner]

"Goshujinsama is a pervert." [Diana]

Leave me alone.

After that, we were told that the slaves were gathered in another room so we moved again.

It appears that male and female slaves are handled separately and will not be placed in the same room…..Tch, that bastard Jephthah! He's trying to fuck with me again!
Somehow, I felt like I've become that guy's main target of teasing….I'll definitely pursue it!

"Jephthah-san, the owner of the slave trading house has shown me those male slaves in the state of being tied with a rope earlier, am I right?" [Ayase]

"Iya~a I'm sorry. Since you had mentioned that you wanted escorts, we did it with best intentions……Were you expecting us to accommodate a maid along to take care of Diana-san too? You're sure greedy, Jirou-san." [Jephthah]

This sly fox oniisan!

◇◆◆◆◇

The number of slaves were considerably less than previously, but room spreads out even wider than the room earlier. The similar dark gloomy eyes, a diversity of race and pretty white tunics.

U~n….As expected still heavy…..

All of them appeared to be in the late teens or early 20s. I guessed they must have not wanted to end up as slaves. Combat related vocation aside, I am not even sure if they are able to fight as escorts…

A slave without their essential emotion might be bad but, it might not be that practical, as I thought.

"Etto, master. So do all the people here have combat related vocation as what was discussed earlier? Are there any child here who has actual combat experience?" [Ayase]

I tried examining the girls as I listened.

Despite saying something cool, it was still better to choose one to my preference after all.

……

…………

………………

The one at the far corner. There's one there. The girl with brown skin.

She has the same dark gloomy eyes like the others but a pair of thick eyebrows and alluring eyes. Her purple hair similar to the colour of an amethyst is also beautiful.
Her age seemed to be below 20 and she has outstanding style.
Even though she was wearing the same white tunic, her splendid breast was highly prominent.
And above all, her ears are slightly long.

Isn't that…….what we call dark elf-chan in our industry? Ufu,ufufufu, why is she lined up in such a place?

"……A, ano? Are you listening?" [owner]

Ah, master. Sorry. I haven't heard a thing. Even if I do hear it, all that information is no longer relevant.

"Please tell me the information of this child." [Ayase]

When I pointed at the dark elf-chan, confusions were clearly written all over their faces and they seemed to be surprised at the same time. What is so surprising about this? You guys should know about my fondness for elf.

"Jirou-san. That child is from the Turk tribe. You might not mind it too much but is it really alright?" [Jephthah]

"So what of it? Turk tribe?" [Ayase]

…..According to Jephthah's explanation, one of the Turk tribe's characteristic is the brown skin. Since their ears are long similar to elves, they are often the target of persecution for being false elves…..it wasn't said but it seems like a tribe that often became the target of discrimination.
The discrimination tendency in this country in particular, is even more conspicuous. Although the country of fire to the south doesn't seem to discriminate against the brown skin……..

In addition, the Turk tribe doesn't seem to be loved much by the spirits so there have not been any history of any of them getting 2 or more vocations so far. Since this country has a strong belief in spirits, they might be considerably narrow-minded too. Moreover the number of guidance that they receive are really few or something along that line…..

Hmm. I see.
But all of those have nothing to do with me!
I've already decided on her!

"This girl's name is Marina…… There is another reason why I wouldn't recommend her actually……Her vocation is a Knight." [owner]

The owner said apologetically.

Nn? That looks good actually. It would be good for escorts in particular. Is there anything wrong with it?

"Is there anything wrong with Knight?" [Ayase]

"That's because, a knight is usually something that only a man can become, Jirou. So if a woman were to have Knight as vocation, it's actually the same as having no vocation at all. In actual they can still fight but why has it ended up this way." [Rebecca]

So a woman can't be a knight…is it. But it's also a combat related vocation anyhow and Rebecca-san did say they would not have problem fighting too. No matter how I think about it, it doesn't seem to be much of a problem.

…ah I see. Since a vocation is literally the same as a profession, if she can't get a job as a knight, then the vocation doesn't seem significant anymore isn't it? I ended up thinking of it as an RPG. A vocation is also a job! It's not a game!

In order to get a more in-depth story, I tried speaking to Marina………as expected I felt embarrassed.

"Etto, I was thinking of buying you now but may I know if you have any combat experience? Could you do housework? Could you read letters?" [Ayase]
(TL: He sounded casual at first but ended up becoming slightly formal in his speech)

As I was asking her, this Jephthah asshole who was behind me suddenly said, “Honorific language to a slave!” making me feel like bursting into laughter. Although, thanks to that my hesitation gradually disappears.

The questioning ended up becoming a smattering of words for some reason….. But, I guess it’s not good to be too casual to a girl whom you just met.

I had initially thought that she was still in hesitation but all of the sudden she glared at me as if she had made up her mind somehow and said.

You might have said that she blurted it out.

“I-I-I-I will make an oath here as a knight so if you are a worthy master that I should be serving then show me the evidence! O-Otherwise even if you can rob me of my body, do know that you can never rob me of my heart. S-So how will it be?” [Marina]

Oh my, this child, is seriously cute.
But will it be alright? Halfway through it became withered out. Do your best! Do your best till the end!

While I was calming myself there, I was taken off guard by Diana who suddenly cut in from the side.

“Marina. I am Diana. Diana Runaabera. I’m the princess from the elf race. Pledge your allegiance to me, be my hound, dedicate your life to me. If you do so, you will obtain the blessings of the spirit even as a member from the Turk tribe.” [Diana]

Diana…..
Why did she suddenly cut in……moreover in such a monotone.
The one who will be making the contract is me though.

But well whatever since it seemed interesting.

“Oooooh princess!” [Marina]

“Yoshi, what do you want to ask for, Marina…..” [Diana]

I cast a sceptical gaze at the two of them who were engaged in a skit there. I was the one who would have to go through the procedure of the contract though.

Chapter 021 – The high-tech smell coming from the magic map

“Master. What are Marina’s experiences as a knight……no, there’s no way she has one. What the heck is that?” [Ayase]

“Iya~a, it seems like that girl admires knights a lot…… So….that is something like her prolonging interest in imitating a knight.” [owner]

I see.
…..wait it’s not just “I see”!!
…..What on earth is that girl doing at her current age!

But, well……it’s cute so whatever!

Anyway, I decided to buy Marina. To be more precise, I will have Jephthah-shi buy it for me though.

While Marina was still engaged in the skit with Diana, I signed the document first. The price is……40 gold coins. The tentative conversion of it would be roughly 6 mil Japanese yen. As for the price of a slave, I wasn’t sure how much would it cost for a good one but it should be cheap……
Well, Turk tribe appears to be unpopular and since her vocation is *that*, I guess it should be cheap. I should check on the prices of other slaves for future reference.

After that, the elf that was originally under the employment of the slave trading house helped in carrying out the contract between me and Marina.

In Marina’s opinion, 「I am the owner of Diana, the princess = a lord who is worthy to be served」 so the equation was somehow settled and the contract was completed normally without a hitch.

I pulled out the vocation board to confirm the agreement.

Good good…. [For clarification, apart from any orders that will endanger her life, Marina is required to obey everything Jirou said.] That remark was somehow included in the contract.

Eh? What does that mean?
That means even erotic orders are permitted! Yes!!
It’s totally a separate matter if a child emperor like me would or would not issue such a command though! Uo—

As for Marina, the slave trading house will be dressing her up as a service to me so I was asked to wait in the room first.

On our way to the room, Diana caught Jephthah midway to request for his agreement to provide as much accommodation as he could so I managed to chimed in to make my request too.

“By the way, Jephthah-san, it’s the matter relating to the mayor. In the end what was the promise that you had with her? It seems like you will be getting something from her if I win so I would like you to tell me.” [Ayase]

“Aa, it’s a map. The mayor has bet the map on the match.” [Jephthah]

“Eh? A map? Why a map?” [Ayase]

“Even though I said it’s a map, it’s actually an ancient magic map. I’m currently collecting these. I heard that the mayor managed to obtain something similar excavated from Rukuraera mountain so I negotiated with her.” [Jephthah]

Here it is, Jephthah-shi showed it to me.
An ancient looking parchment? It’s an easily drawn map…..Somehow the information on the map resembles a touch panel that I could switch on by touching. I couldn’t read the characters that came out so I got Rebecca-san to read it.

“Let’s see……『A group of goblins has been discovered deep inside the Rukuraera mountain’s mine! Requesting for their subjugation immediately! The clear condition is to subdue the mother goblin in the deepest part of the mine. The reward for clearing this will be 500G magic stone (red)』. What is this?” [Rebecca]

“It was used by the Hunter’s Guild during the ancient times. Apparently it was an order sheet from their work but I don’t know the in-depth details about it. I have another eight pieces of these with me but the written contents are roughly similar.” [Jephthah]

…..this is something like a guild request isn't it? The unit used for money is G too. What is with this other world? So are the olden days a more RPG oriented world?

"Jephthah-san. When you say ancient, do you know the rough period where this map originated from?" [Ayase]

"It was said that this came from the era of Spirit civilization. So, it's roughly……..1000 years ago." [Jephthah]

Fu~un.
"The Mirror of Truth."

【Classification】
Quest Order Sheet（Easy mode）

【Name】
No.00231
The mine's goblin mother

【Commentary】
The order sheet for monster's subjugation quest
Difficulty grade D
You'll fail if you look down on those goblins!
A first year warrior adventurer who tried disposing of the mother goblin was rendered incapacitated due to the attacks!

【Magic Properties】
It will change into reward after the quest is cleared.

【Spirit's blessing】
None

【Owner】
Jephthah Solo

It's way too candid……
If this will change into the reward upon clearance, doesn't it mean that the quest is still not cleared?
I wonder if the mother goblin in the inner mine has already shrivel up after being kept waiting for 1000 years.

"Then it's a considerably old thing isn't it? Is this expensive?" [Ayase]

"Myself included, the portion will be split among the other collectors, the figure is quite small but,…..it will be 20 gold coins at the very least." [Jephthah]

20 gold coins? Expensiveee.
But well, I would like to obtain one and see if I could clear the quest one day.
Although that is if the quest is still available.
I wonder if Jephthah-shi has tried it himself before.

"I see. It's done quite fairly well, isn't it. By the way, have you actually tried going into the interior of the mine based on what's written on this map?" [Ayase]

"As expected I have not tried going there. Old mines are usually infested with many monsters. But there are mineral gathering quests in the other maps that I have obtained so I tried looking for those. Unfortunately, I did not find anything." [Jephthah]

So he did try it before……This guy must have a lot of free time.

"I will be changing the subject Jephthah-san. I have a small request to make actually. I had heard it a while ago from Diana but it appears that it will still take a considerably long time to clear the next part in the guidance." [Ayase]

"There is still a lot to come." [Jephthah]

"So I have always been by myself up till now. As for my base, I've only been freeloading like a burden at Rebecca-san's place like an inn but I couldn't afford to do so from now on. I have bought a house already but it's not really in a state that's suitable to be live in yet and of course it still requires a lot of maintenance. However, it's embarrassing to say but I don't have the required funds to do so. So I was wondering if the Solo house could be a back-up in this considering that Diana will be living in that house from now on." [Ayase]

“It’s goshujinsama and my new house isn’t it….. S-so the punishment for the slave will be carried out in the basement then……goshujinsama sure is hasty…..” [Diana]

Another strange delusion is coming out from her mouth! Please be more prudent since I’m at an important point now!

“Yes I don’t mind it.” [Jephthah]

It sounds trivial to him! Is there something wrong with this guy’s sense in the value of money! He just bought me a slave easily too!
I wonder what exceptionally good things will he be receiving once Diana achieved her guidance. Let me have a part of it too.

“Thank you very much. Then I will bring this matter up at a later date. Actually…..I have just received a guidance, 『Make a transaction with the Imperial trader』.” [Ayase]

“Oh that is wonderful. As I thought, we must have been fated to meet under the guidance of the Great Spirit.” [Jephthah]

Jephthah-shi appeared to be really happy.
Is this guy for real? I could never understand the thinking of a *bonbon*…..
Despite his intention to trick me, he didn’t seem like a bad person…. No, I have never thought that he is genuinely a bad guy though.

But well, there is the matter with regards to Diana’s back-up too so I would need to associate with this guy for the time being anyway.
However, I need to be more careful so I wouldn’t let myself get caught up in his mischief again.

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“Sorry to keep you waiting.”

The owner of the slave trading house came in the room with Marina who was clad in a simple white dress made of cotton. She appeared to have been given a light makeup.

Marina seemed to be squirming. Confusion filled her deep purple eyes as she looked around the room restlessly, both her hands moving around hesitantly without confidence.

What is with this cute creature. It feels like a dream to be able to bring her back in reality. Dehhee.
(TL: Just imagine him putting on this face when he was thinking of that -> (´∀`))

My eyes met Marina's. I wasn't sure if she would start babbling something strange again but she seemed to have wanted to say something when she looked at me.
As a gooshujinsama, I was overcome with the urge to shout out, "This is my slave!"

"You're beautiful, Marina. Really beautiful. To the point that I feel like exploring every nook and cranny of you." [Ayase]

This is dangerous. I have blurted out something strange now.

On hearing what I said, Marina's face turned beet red, her eyes were wide opened in surprise.
Diana pinched my left arm.
Rebecca-san twisted my right arm.
It's going to break!

"To begin with, goshujinsama is impolite. You're being impolite to me. You haven't said anything when you see me." [Diana]

"You're right. Jirou might be inconsiderate in many areas isn't he–" [Rebecca]

"E-even if my liege says s-something like that, I wouldn't be h-happy with it either…." [Marina]
(TL: a tsundere?)

"Iya~ aren't you a popular one, Jirou-san. Hahaha." [Jephthah]

Is this what you call being popular! It's my first time being popular ever since I was born!
That's not possible. I will not be fooled by Jephthah again!

Chapter 022 – The smell of the steady plans from now on

Well with this, the match this time is settled so let's organize the things that we should do from now on.

To start with, the first problem is still money to say the least.
The maintenance for the house will be supported by the Solo house so that part was settled but I would still need to consider the cost of living from now on. Strictly speaking, if I do not earn enough to support the living expenses of two more slaves, my financial situation will gradually become worse.
However concerning this, I do have a tentative idea to earn money for the time being so it should be fine. But if push comes to shove, going to Jephthah to force a sale would be good too.

In addition, during the time when I was making the preparation for the match with Jephthah, I actually bought several items that is likely to sell well from the net auction and put them up for sale as well. I think they might sell for decent prices but I'm looking forward to it anyhow. The bidding time was set to end tomorrow night so I would need to go back at least once the day after tomorrow. Well, those items were bought with just one silver coin so the amount was not really a big deal.

Then the next problem would be distance. No matter how you look at it, the residence is way too far from the city.
The only solution available was to get a horse. If I am planning to transport a huge amount of goods from the other side, I might need a wagon too.
But,…….all these would be quite expensive aren't they. I might need to start with a small scale business first.

Although that means, I need to practice horse riding too….
Since there are three of use, we need at least two horses. Marina has knight as her vocation so she might not have a problem riding a horse but as expected it would be impossible for me to ride one without practising first. Diana can just ride behind Marina, possibly. To be honest I wanted to ride behind Marina too!

The other issue would be that Marina might possibly be useless as an escort. She requires training.
Or rather, it might be a good idea to make everyone an apprentice to Rebecca-san and Shello-san. Since I have a combat related vocation, I might be able to defeat a moderate low-level monster in just 3 months time. 3 months might be long but if I just work myself to the extent of being able to run my business smoothly then it should be fine. I should just do it patiently since I have all the time I want.

Come to think of it I have forgotten to enquire Diana on her vocation. It would be good if she has a combat related vocation too.

I might not be a similar match to the upper class people but I would need to buy weapons too.
I do yearn for a weapon from the other world but after researching for several days, I came to the conclusion that the weapons here are [quite expensive]. Ah this looks cool! When I saw something that grab my interest and asked for the price, I was told that it cost 3500 El. It is approximately 520,000 yen………..So all in all I still need more money!

The next point is something really important. I wonder if I should let them know that I'm someone who comes from a different world.
Rebecca-san must have noticed my strange attitude by now but she hasn't said anything at all. If I want my plan to proceed smoothly from now on, it might be easier if I were to tell her in advance.
Of course to the two slaves too.
Well it might be quite a gamble actually.

The last would be the matter related to the guidance.
The new guidance that I have obtained are, 「Make a transaction with the Imperial trader 2/3」, 「Try going to the Mining town 0/3」 that was just newly received and 「Try going to the Lakeside town 0/3」.
(TL: In case you don't remember, "Lakeside town" refers to "Heripa Lake" mentioned by Rebecca and "Mining Town" refers to "Rukuraera" mentioned in the last chapter)

I will be making business transactions with Jephthah to some extent soon so I can put that aside first for now. That guy is one of the richest acquaintance that I know of currently so it might be a good idea to get as much money making idea from him too. With regards to the guidance, I could probably push through it with a somewhat unreasonably business deal. That is because the people in this world has a strong belief that「Guidance = The right thing to do」.

The Mining town and Lakeside town are Rukuraera and Heripa Lake respectively. Rukuraera's location is not really too far and I was somewhat interested in that place too so I will be going there in near future. I might be planning to go Heripa only once my business has run smoothly after some time.

Did I trigger a flag and obtain these quests as soon as I received the information on those places? It's not like this is an RPG…..

In addition….there was actually a reason why I declined Rebecca-san's offer to help me annul the contract with Diana-san earlier. As soon as I formed the contract with Diana a while ago, one of my earlier guidance「The Fate of the Giant Swing」was updated to 9/10.
In other words, this Fate of the Giant Swing must somehow be related to Diana's「Special Guidance」. Probably.
If there is a possibility that it was just as I assumed then the next itinerary would be the end of the guidance. Once she completed the guidance, she might be able to use her spirit magic after so it might work out better than I thought.

Other than that……., I had not intentionally omitted it but, as I thought it's *that*, isn't it? It's about the slaves. I need to figure out how to overcome the sense of distance I have with them…….

The current relationship between the elves and I are of master and slaves. That was how I intended to treat them as well but other than the time working at the black company, I have only been employed as someone of lower ranks when I was working part time during high school……….
I don't think that I am able to make use of someone skilfully……
It might be good if I can show my dignity like a certain master from somewhere but as of now I can only show my majesty as a high school graduate neet……
Actually no matter how you look at it, Diana looks more dignified than me……

But well, just because they are slaves, there is actually no need to set up a tier-based ranking among us. We should just go at our own pace! We are somewhat

similar in terms of age too!
In the first place, Rebecca-san has already said that a slave is just someone who is bound by a lifetime employment contract. There is no need for me to think too deeply about it!

Although the determination to feel their breasts at the very least did cross my mind.

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When we left the slave trading house, dusk has fallen so it was already considerably late.
I didn't really have the intention to go back at a time like this so I skilfully talked Jephthah into treating everyone to a night at the inn today.
I did it! The enjoyment of sharing a bed with the elf girls! De~yufuu.

On our way to the inn, I took a look at the elf girl walking beside me.

The girl with the long platinum blonde fluttering hair, Diana was walking in a calm demeanour.

Even as she walked, she was exuberated with an aura of poise and serenity. I wonder if it's because she's an elf royalty. Despite being the same elf as priestess-chan, the aura they gave out are completely different.
To be honest, Diana actually scored a perfect mark based on the original image of an elf that I have envisioned previously……. If only she is without her tattoo though.

The「impact of the tattoo」,「Jephthah's trick」and the「alterations of the contract」incidences that happened in the slave trading house have left me stupefied. However none of them are personally Diana's fault…….
She was just following what the guidance pointed out and even though the person herself doesn't seem to have minded it, she was thrown into an incomprehensible circumstance that forced her to be a slave……….

Well, she might have been convinced that she wouldn't be put into an unfavourable situation even after becoming a slave due to the high elf's special traits but it doesn't appear as if she has any malicious intentions too. To be honest, I am not good at judging people with my eyes so I'm not really too sure about it…..

Anyway it is strange to be worrying if she is at fault or not for the time being so I should just act accordingly when the time comes.

Besides….., since Diana is an Elf princess, once her guidance is over she will probably return to her country? She should be going back possibly. I guess….I shouldn't let these feelings get the better of me.

So, I'll hold myself back to the extent of just biting those ears!

…..but, the combination of the colourful tattoo on Diana made her looked really conspicuous. Her complexion is fair to begin with actually. She would be a legit beauty if only the tattoo isn't present since the features beneath the tattoo are excellent.
……..Right now she might look slightly similar to a Pierrot though with charming features.
Well I guess that could be the reason why someone like me can speak comfortably with her.

Although I wonder what that tattoo really is.
Does it have something to do with their race? Or was it something that has to do with magic? A fashion maybe? …..or could it be just her hobby?
Well I think it would be faster if I were to ask the person herself.

"Diana. Does it…I mean does that tattoo have something to do with the high elf race?" [Ayase]

"Goshujinsama, for you to question the external feature of your own slave who is also a girl with a straight face, you're unexpectedly an S aren't you?…." [Diana]

"Enough with that already!" [Ayase]

"Y-You're mean. Certainly it might look like one but it's not a tattoo. This is….to summarize it, this is something like my spirit stone. Anything further would be a *s.e.c.r.e.t* ♪" [Diana]

Oh! So it's a spirit stone! Then I hope you could quickly use it to rid yourself of it soon. If it's not a tattoo then it might come off one day, isn't it? I wonder if I could ask her to use it as one of goshujinsama's privileges. Can I?

"I can't since I'm saving it for something important. This is the only thing that I am not able to do even if goshujinsama were the one who requested it.” [Diana]

Yes, it’s really unfortunate.
Well I’m not sure what she’ll be using it for but I just hope that she’ll use it as soon as possible.

Marina was listening in to our conversation silently as she walked.

Marina is from the Turk tribe. When I tried asking about it, apparently dark elves do not exist here. Although she still has the appearance of a dark elf to me.

Evidently, those from the Turk tribe have longer life span than humans and their physical ability is slightly higher too……these are the few features of them. Naturally they are not able to use the spirit magic and their life span is not as long as the elf race.
They are discriminated for having similar ears as the elves similarly to how the other people hold the elves in such high regard at the same time. It’s quite commendable. Well I guess it’s a natural for this country that holds a really strong belief in spirits.

She has roughly trimmed beautiful amethyst coloured hair and a not really dark brown skin that looks vibrant. All in all, she has healthy features.
She became a slave due to her parents’ debt. It’s a so called「Debt Slave」. I didn’t manage to hear the story in detail but it’s usually a really heavy story isn’t it…….
Though from this world’s point of view, this is not an unusual thing…..

Marina who has likely heard something from the conversation kept glancing here and finally asked me a question timidly.

“M-my liege, may I know why did you b-b-buy Marina? Will you be able to accomplish anything? From a good-for-nothing person like Marina……I seriously can’t do anything.” [Marina]

Unlike how she was confidently making the oath and so on earlier, she appeared really worn out now. Were you just forcing yourself a while ago?

If I were to reply to her,「I bought Marina because Marina is the cutest」here, I should sound like an *ikemen* isn’t it?…… I have a feeling that my arms will likely be broken this time round so I wasn’t able to summon the courage to say it.

“I’m not from this neighbourhood nor do I have any prejudice against the Turk tribe. On top of that the price is also quite cheap.” [Ayase]

“Don’t you feel disgusted with Marina?” [Marina]

“Disgusted? No, not at all. I don’t have any unpleasant feelings towards you at all. I do find plenty of cute parts about you instead. I’m looking forward to boast about Marina to everyone in the country.” [Ayase]

“Hue…..m-my liege, it’s cruel of you t-to make fun of slaves. It’s impossible for Marina to have any cute parts at all……” [Marina]

“It’s not true, Marina. Marina is really cute.” [Ayase]

This is bad. In the end I have blurted it out at the spur of the moment.

The look of Marina blushing with slight tears in her eyes was really cute to the degree of me wanting to shout with a voice loud enough to reverberate through the 5 continents…..

“Alright, that’s enough.” [Rebecca]

And my arm ended up being twisted by Rebecca-san again.
I-It’s going to break! It’s seriously breaking for real this time!

◇◆◆◆◇

After recovering Shello-san who was dead drunk from the party venue, we finally arrived at the inn. It appears to be Jephthah’s favourite inn. It was a three storey tall expensive looking building. There was a huge fireplace in the lounge and customers as well as other visitors could be seen chatting leisurely there.

Considering that majority of the houses in this world were crudely built with stones, an inn that was built entirely from wood with carpet laid on the floor like this would be considered as a quite luxurious building.

Well I will not be the one paying so it’s fine. I’ll see how much it cost for one night just for future reference.
Come to think of it, will we be getting dinner soon? I’m quite famished now and since the food here in this world appears to be really high grade, I am looking forward to it.

Jephthah seemed to have gotten two rooms hence we were guided by the aunty to the rooms.

My heart was thumping excitedly in thinking of my first night with the elves but I should make myself get used to this soon!
In a sense, this is the first night!!

“Alright you guys will be in this room.” [Rebecca]

Thus I was left alone with a drunk Shello-san in the hallway.

Aa, so that was why he has gotten two rooms there…..The thought of distributing the rooms by gender has not come across my mind……..

Chapter 023 – The other world's restaurant has the smell of a hornworm

My body became weary after carrying the drunk Shello-san, who was still not awake to bed. It's almost time to eat. I would like to go to sleep too as soon as we are done with our dinner.

"Please, I beg of you." I left Shello-san who was noisily sleep talking there alone and went to the dining room to have dinner.

The line-ups are Rebecca-san, Diana, Marina and I.

We had asked them to prepare the number of seats for us in advance. It might be because there are a lot of meat in the dishes served here. I'm really glad since I'm a meat lover.

The dining room is located on the first floor of the inn. It seems to be operating as a restaurant as well. It's a floor built using an abundance of beautiful native trees as well as a wall with light pea green plaster. As for the lighting, there are candlestick lamps fixed to the wall beside each table. It is quite dark but once your eyes get accustomed to it, it wasn't that bad.
Eating in the dark like this reminded me of the time in the camp.
Should I say that this actually feels quite extraordinary? Or rather this feels like a non-daily life of the people in the other world.

We were guided by the waiter.

For some reason the all other customers were looking at us. Putting aside myself who was just wearing a plain dark blue clothing with a plain looking face, the tall beauty Rebecca-san, Marina who was from the Turk tribe and Diana the high elf with tattoo on her body would definitely draw a huge attention. It's at the level whereby it's impossible not to stand out……

When Rebecca-san and I were guided to our seats, Marina slowly crouched down and sat on the floor while grasping her knees. When I looked at Diana, she could be seen sitting in a similar way too.

Hold it…., what the hell are you guys doing?

“W-why is princess sitting on the floor too? Please do not make a mockery of slaves….” [Marina]

“Marina, please do not misunderstand it. I’m also goshujin-sama’s slave.” [Diana]

Ah so it’s like that. I guess the slaves’ position are lower than even servants here. They probably aren’t allowed to eat together with their master.
Is this also a common sense? I wonder who was the one who have actually taught them this. Did the master of the slave trading house brief all the slaves about this through a seminar? Something like「The complete 4 courses of the right thing to do for slaves」. It’s surreal.

“Eh? Eh? Despite being a princess you’re also a slave?” [Marina]

That’s right. In short she’s a slave princess. On hearing just that single word, all my dream phrases seemed to have overflowed. A high elf slave princess.

I hope Marina will get used to being a dark elf slave knight soon too!

“Look closely here Marina. Isn’t the slave mark properly engraved here?” [Diana]

“Ah it’s true……B-But I have heard that e-elves are e-e-extremely expensive. Is my liege possibly someone who is really r-rich? And yet, why did you p-purchase someone like Marina?” [Marina]

You’re stuttering too much Marina. Try calming yourself there!

The slave mark that Diana was talking about was something like『The proof of slave』that was engraved onto the wrist. In the case of Diana, the slave mark was covered up by her original tattoo so it wasn’t really obvious. It’s not impossible for Marina to be surprised.

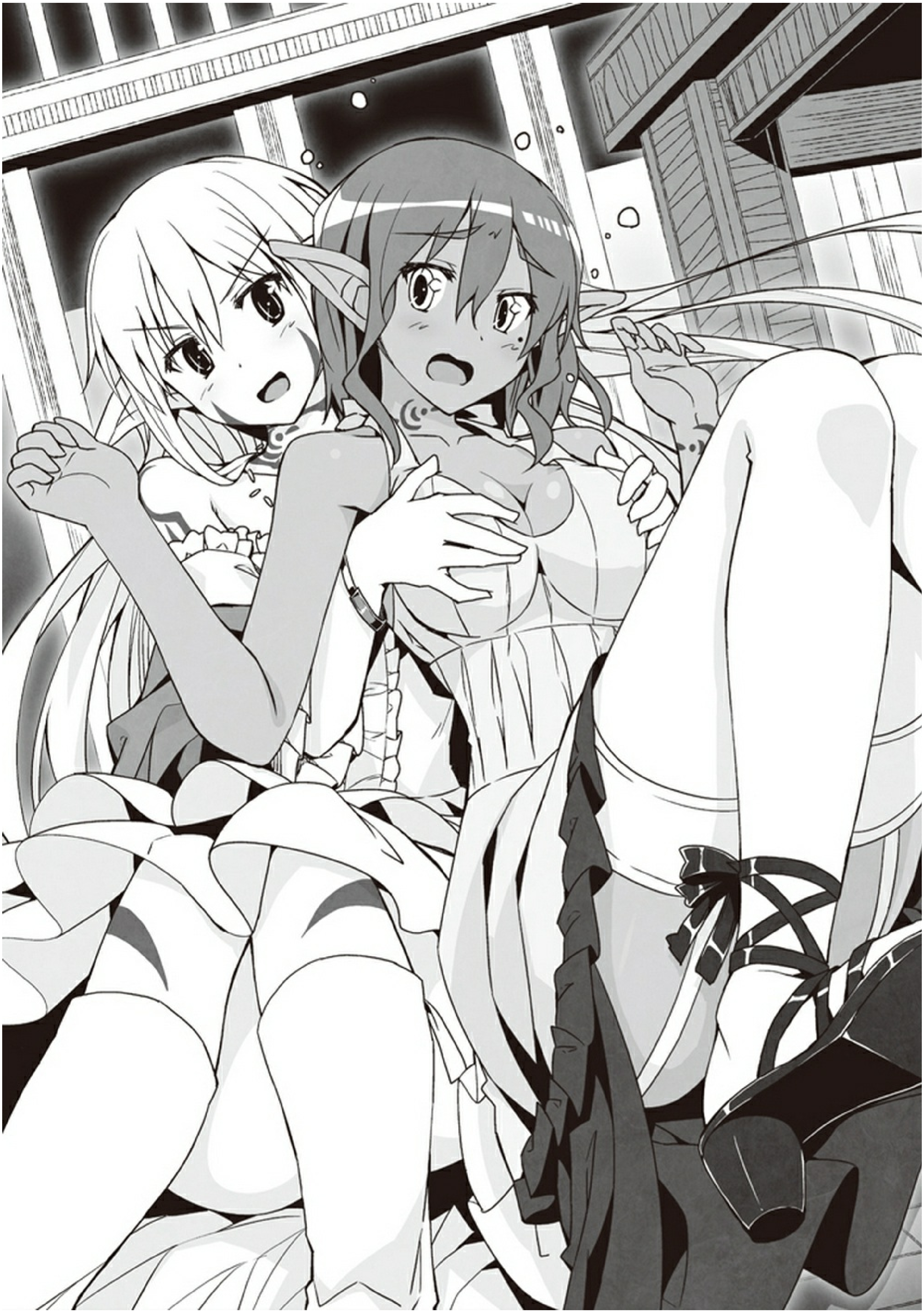
“Marina……This is one of your technique in making goshujin-sama say『Because she’s cute』…..isn’t it?” [Diana]

“M-Marina doesn’t particularly have that intention at all…..But, what I couldn’t really understand was, why me……” [Marina]

“No, Marina must be just pretending to be pure and innocent but in reality you’re a lewd female slave pig. Th-this useless swelling chest of yours is the evidence. This! This! This! This!” [Diana]

(TL: Did she suddenly turn S from an M?)

“Wahiyaaa~! P-Please stop that princesssss…….” [Marina]



Hey! Hey! Why are you rubbing her chest before the master himself.

Are those two getting along? Both of them seemed to be arguing as they sat side by side. It was interesting to watch but I'm getting hungry!

"Hey, putting aside all the jokes, could you guys quickly get back to your seats here! Marina aside, isn't Diana overdoing it with your practical joke?" [Ayase]

"……I wasn't really joking though. ….It was only a little. Goshujin-sama's always sticking up for Marina. It's unfair. W-Why did I become goshujin-sama's slave……." [Diana]

"Isn't it because of your guidance?" [Ayase]

"Muu~! I don't know!" [Diana]

Pui!

Pui!? Not! Whatever but could you guys quickly get back to your seats. The waiter has been waiting there to take our order since a while ago.

"Jirou. It won't be good unless you give your instructions properly to your slaves—. I wouldn't say that they might grow impudent if you go lenient on them but you should properly make a clear distinction here too." [Rebecca]

"So it's like this…..Diana, Marina, don't just sit there. Return to your seats now." [Ayase]

As soon as I said so, Diana snubbed me before sitting down almost immediately. Marina was still hesitant to sit as she kept glancing at me. She finally sat down only after I said「Enough with that and just sit down」.

……Why must I be ingrained with a servile character just for this? Are they first grader slaves? Eh? Is this how Middle Ages is?
……No matter how you look at it, isn't this way of speaking inappropriate to be used in the Middle Ages?

Even though this place also serves as a restaurant for the time being, the menu has a wider variety than the stalls outside. Since I couldn't read the letters, Rebecca-san has to explain it to me one by one……there are a lot of meat dishes in the menu just as I have expected. There must be a lot of meat lovers here. If I were to bring a tool associated with meat here, it might be able to sell well. I wasn't able to figure out any particular item yet but there should be something that I might be able to think of.

“Can Diana and Marina read the letters? All the orders here will be charged on Jephthah-san anyway so you can order whatever you like.” [Ayase]

“Aa, my liege….It’s actually Marina’s first time at an amazing place like this so I’m not sure of what to order……” [Marina]

“Then I’ll help Marina to select something. This『Original Deep-fried Hunter-Style Witchetty with sauce』sounds good.” [Diana]

Rebecca-san did explain it a while ago but Witchetty is actually a huge hornworm….. I wasn’t sure if it’s really considered as one of a feast among the elves in the forest dwellings or she was just suggesting it as a prank.
(TL: For those who don’t know what a Witchetty is – here)

“Marina, just choose between fish, vegetables or hornworm. By the way the one that Diana has suggested was the hornworm.” [Ayase]

“W-Will it be alright if I were to eat fish?” [Marina]

It appears that she preferred fish. Marina ordered『Baked Hippisumeri with Herbs』and『rice』. Diana seriously ordered the hornworm in the end. So I guess she didn’t suggest it just to be mean…..

Rebecca-san ordered『Mumuruki Steak』,『Erishe Style Lasagna』,『Meat Udon』and『Garaga Shellfish Steamed Rice』.

Even though Rebecca-san was the one who have said “It would be good if we eat with everyone”, I think she might have ordered too much. I do know that she can eat a lot but I didn’t really expect her to honestly order without reservations.

Mine were『Lyre Aura Oven-Grilled Potherb Filling』,『Chef Recommended Salad』,『Goulash』and『rice』.
(TL: ………)

……………

……………I think it’s good enough if we can eat with everyone.

In addition, each of us ordered liquor as drinks and we began our dinner.
It’s delicious–! The beer is delicious–!

“It’s not good to be prejudice, goshujin-sama. Witchetty is a food that is rich in nutrition. Hore hore. Ufufu.” [Diana]

Stop ittt!
You were just snubbing me a while ago but you were back to yourself again after drinking!
And don’t feed me that hornworm! That’s a seriously plump thumb-sized hornworm.

“Hafu~! Hafu~! I-It’s tasty~” [Marina]

Marina was on the verge of tears as she gorged herself on the food.
That is quite a wild way of eating. She must first learn the bare minimum of table manners!

Rebecca-san appeared to be eating normally in a calm way but…..the food seemed to be fast disappearing from the table.

The ones that I have ordered were delicious too. Based on Rebecca-san’s explanation, Lyre Aura is a「half bird, half cow creature」. The taste is close to a chicken. The lump of meat is then stuffed with chopped vegetables then baked together in the oven. It could be the vegetable juice or the juice dripping from the meat but overall it’s really juicy. Without realizing it I had drank too much of the alcohol. I think I might have been drinking non-stop today.

Goulash resembles a red looking stew though it isn’t spicy at all. It’s rich in flavour and goes really well with rice. Since the amount is quite huge, I shared it with everyone else.

There were beer and wine for the liquor that we ordered. The beer here might not be cold but the taste is thick and delicious. I wouldn’t say that this is a completely different beer than the one in Japan, but this is delicious by its own. The alcohol level is also quite high and the taste is similar to a punch.

I wonder if Diana is the type who gets into good mood once she started drinking. She seemed to be smiling as she eats. Her occasional “Ufu, ufufufu” laughter is quite eerie though.

Is Marina a maudlin drinker? “It’s my first time eating something as tasty as this” or “It feels like my birthday when I get to eat a fish like this.” She cried as she kept repeating those similar lines.

She's a noisy cute one.

Rebecca-san is the type who will give off a really cute feeling once she started drinking liquor. I would need to be more careful to prevent myself from falling for her.
As I was absentmindedly looking at the ring I gave her, I caught her giving me occasional sidelong glance.

It's prohibited to make a virgin's heart throb like this! It's prohibited!

We finally returned to our room after spending a pleasant time over dinner in our own way. It could be due to the amount of alcohol I consumed but I fell asleep instantly.
Please look forward to night crawling or lucky lewd events some other time.

Well now…., I would need to check on the status of the goods that I have placed for sale online so I need to go back at least once tomorrow.

Before that, I need to snap some pictures. Especially Diana and Marina's pictures.

Chapter 024 – The other world's reselling has the smell of an easy profit

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The following day, Jephthah has work to do so he returned to Marishera after leaving the message, 「I have sent a replacement so do drop by the guild when you have time after tomorrow」.
We may use the inn until the maintenance of the house is done too. Alright! I wouldn't need to worry about my base for the time being.

However, a replacement for Jephthah….. Don't bother sending me another fox or racoon please!
(TL: Meaning he doesn't want another person as sly as Jephthah as replacement)

Well then, I should be going back to my home at least once but I guess I shouldn't be taking the slaves back with me. It might be really interesting to try taking them over to the other side but there will be even more of troublesome things to take care of as well if I do…….
Furthermore, the house is still not in a state where someone can live in yet……

In other words…house-sitting…..?
If I were to return to the house now and finish my errand on the other side as soon as I can…I should be able to come back probably in the evening.

Alright. I'll do so then.

"Shello-san, Rebecca-san. I'll need to go back to that house for a bit to check on the repairs so let's go back together. You'll be going back today too, am I right?" [Ayase]

"Eh? Then what about those girls–? And actually where is that house?" [Shello]

"Diana and Marina will be house-sitting at the inn. It couldn't be helped since I couldn't take them along. The house is actually located nearby your place. It's the house in the forest where I met Shello-san for the first time. Do you still remember?" [Ayase]

“N? Jirou. I am actually really familiar with the vicinity around that place but as far as I know, there are no residences there.” [Shello]

“Jirou, will you be leaving these girls here and go alone? Isn’t it a better for you to take them along?” [Rebecca]

As I thought, Shello-san doesn’t know about it too.
Toby-shi was the same too. Even the people from the guild who originated from the nearby village didn’t know about the existence of that house. That house is seriously a complete mystery.

With regards to Marina and Diana, well…..if I were really planning to go back to just check on the repairs of the house then it would be fine to bring them along. However, I was actually planning to return to earth….
I could take them along and explain it to them but somehow it feels troublesome.

“So that’s how it is. Would it be alright for you two to stay at the inn obediently?” [Ayase]

“Please do not take me as a fool. I’m a good house-sitter.” [Diana]

“M-Marina is good at it too. I managed to stay composed even after staying hidden in a closet in the room for half a day!” [Marina]
(TL: o__o;;)

T…That seems to be slightly different though, Marina…. I’m seriously worried about what kind of life she has been living through now, as her master.

◇◆◆◆◇

Hence, I will be returning with Shello-san and his wife.
Both of them wanted to take a look at the mysterious house so they will be passing by there on their way.

“It is located right after this path. Did you guys really not know about it?” [Ayase]

I asked the two of them when we finally arrived in front of the road leading to the house.

“Oo…..Certainly there is a trace of a road…..I was supposed to be familiar with even the animal trails around this area….. However, there shouldn't be a house here at all……" [Shello]

The three of us forged ahead along the road. The house should be 100m ahead if we kept going from here.

However, after some deep thought, if I were to do some maintenance work on the house, I would need to do so for the road too and that requires a lot of money. There are no huge machineries existing in this world so everything is basically done through manpower……

Well, I will not the one who will be paying so it should be fine. Although it'll just be troublesome since it would be too time-consuming.

The sight of the house finally came to sight as the three of us kept forging ahead.

"That's the house. I have received the proof of ownership from Tobias-san too so this is officially my house now. It seemed to have been abandoned for a long time so it requires maintenance before I can live in it." [Ayase]

"……….There seriously is one….. It's not located that deep into the forest too so why haven't I notice it till now…." [Shello]

"Arara. It's quite a splendid looking house. Certainly it does look like it has been deserted for a long time but there doesn't appear to be any problem with the structure so it should be fine to stay inside. There seems to be a well here too." [Rebecca]

"Ee. I was lucky since I found it by chance. Jephthah-san will be the one doing the maintenance too." [Ayase]

"You're right. It's close to our house too so we can come over to visit anytime–" [Rebecca]

"Yes please do. I still have a lot to learn from both of you." [Ayase]

With this the unveiling is done.

After seeing Shello-san and Rebecca-san off, I returned to my room through the mirror.
When Rebecca-san said, "I'll help you out", it was hard for me to send her back

earlier. However, I managed to make her back down once I replied, "I need some time alone to think about something…"
This phrase can be useful!

Once I went back to the room through the mirror, the first thing I did was to brew a coffee for myself.

Even though the food and drinks in the other world are delicious, they don't have coffee there. It might be a good idea as well to introduce this there soon.

I switched on my personal computer.

First of all, I would need to check if there are any successful bid on the other world's items that were placed in auction. There were 8 items placed for sale all together. Those items were all bought from the other world's flea market so it wasn't that much of a huge amount in terms of money but I have confidence that they will fetch a decent price in Japan.

Thus I tried placing all for sale for 1 yen at that time.
1 yen sales were done by starting the bidding price of an item at 1 yen. Instead of the possibility of the closing bid of an item to be significantly lower than the initial expected price, there might be a chance that the high number of bids will stand out, causing the bidders to be heated up and raising the amount of bid on the contrary. Hence there will be a merit that the bid price might soar up instead.

Originally there is a method whereby to sell only certain items that are in demand. Although if I were to use that method, the goods that I have with me this time might not be well suited for sale. Nevertheless, I will be able to research on the potential demand for any specific items by watching the number of potential bids. It wouldn't be bad to me since it will be beneficial for my market research if I could observe how high the price jumps for each item.

Well, it wouldn't be a huge blow to me even if it didn't result in a huge amount of money….
I have been following up on the bid for about four days after I placed them up in auction but there were only dozen of yens bided the last I checked…..

So, how will it be now.

…………

click click click

◇ Antique doll of a girl 71 cm Details: unknown rare – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 44100 yen
Total of bids: 72

◇ European old clothing : antique linen dress – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 7500 yen
Total of bids: 21

◇ Antique Linen Bedsheet gold thread embroidery : rare – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 12600 yen
Total of bids: 32

◇ Antique cotton bedsheet in a set of 4 : rare! – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 21200 yen
Total of bids: 66

◇ Cute Antique Lunch Box Basket : Bento container! – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 6500 yen
Total of bids: 27

◇ Cute Mini Religious Clothing : For cosplay? – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 12300 yen
Total of bids: 30

◇ Antique sterling silver cutlery set : rare! – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 11320 yen
Total of bids: 28

◇ European antique alcohol lamp : rare! – shipping cost included ◇

Congratulations!! There was a successful bid on your item.
The highest bid : 48700 yen
Total of bids: 64

Ooooooo!
It was more than what I have expected!
If I could get 164,220 yen from just a single sale, it would be sufficient for my living!

………The profit earned is roughly the same as when I sold off the one gold coin previously although I do not really understand the actual condition…….

Well, all the items auctioned this time were actually purchased at 7 silver coins in total so strictly speaking, it is way more profitable than selling the one gold coin. Although, if I have more money, I would be buying back all the gold workmanship goods from the other side. I might be able to make easier profit if I do so but as I thought, gold items are really expensive….

I sent the transaction emails to all the highest bidder and packed the goods. Since all the shipping cost were included this time, the preparation required to ship the items are comparatively easy. After that, I would only need to confirm the payments for each item before shipping them out.

But, they were really sold, isn’t it? I have expected them to sell but I never expected them to be popular.

I have been to the flea market once in the last 10 days I have stayed in Erishe but those items were chosen just vaguely before purchasing. Isn’t it actually quite profitable as the end result? The best-selling items like the alcohol lamp and antique doll this time are rarely seen so it might be likely to get higher price for them.

However……I do know that antique cloth might be profitable but I haven’t really expected those used sheets to be able to sell for more than 20,000 yen……

Conversely, the religious clothing has quite an elaborated embroidery, has a stylish design and the mini skirt looks erotic. I have expected to get a decent amount of money from this but the final profit was just so-so. I wonder if the title I used was bad. But, putting the title as「A real religious clothing」wouldn’t work out since it didn’t have that particular design. It doesn’t seem related to Christianity either. In the first place, it might look like a religious clothing but in all honesty I don’t even know if it really is one.

To be frank, all the auction titles were just given randomly!

After going through the procedure for each auction, I logged onto a certain thread that I like frequenting. I did reply in the beginning but I had left it unattended for some time now. So how has it become.

……..Um. It gets quite rough in general after I left it alone.

Anyway I should reply first and get the images out!
I did take a snapshot of the drunk Diana and Marina making a pose yesterday.

【Breaking News】My mirror is connected to another world

742：１◆**Xc544iUoWE**
Hey guys, it’s been a long time….
Actually, I have something that I have to say to you all……..

I have purchased elf slaves in the other world

I took some images too so I’ll upload them in a while.
The timid fellow has taken his pants off.

Chapter 025 – The smell of depopulation board from the fairy board

743: Anonymous Fairy
It’s here!

744: Anonymous Fairy
They are probably images pulled out from a foreign cosplay site

745: Anonymous Fairy
Fool!
1-san is a riajuu who just picked up them up from a photography shop and is trolling us with them isn’t it!
Show us more of those obviously altered images again this timewww

746: Anonymous Fairy
That little grey fabricated image of the American fellow has a cheap sense to it though it might be good.
The amateur can just leave

747: Anonymous Fairy
The altered image for masturbation that was created over the period of one week make me shed the first tearwww

748: Anonymous Fairy
Has the first CG compilation from the other world been released yet?
Though even if it’s released I’ll not buy it

749: Anonymous Fairy
For the time being I’ll forgive you if it’s erotic

750: Anonymous Fairy
Just stop it! My 1 HP has turned 0 already!

751: Anonymous Fairy
The images of the other world landscape that you have uploaded the other day was fairly laughable already

They were just images that were played with after pulling them from foreign sites…..
Please be more tasteful this time!

752: Anonymous Fairy
Although the pants were taken off for the time being

753: Anonymous Fairy
If you're attempting to do so anyhow you should try doing this at a more major board
As long as you have the specific subject isn't it good?

754: Anonymous Fairy
Why does it exist? It's at a mysterious level yo > Fairy board

755: Isolated self ◆ 4noig329de
Is it still alive for now?
It's an unexpected story development so it's not bad
Hurry up with the image!

756: Anonymous Fairy
>>>751
I do quite like that though…..
It felt like a fantasy world that I have envisioned during my junior high school
It relieves my fatigue

757: Anonymous Fairy
Actually…….Actually I want to believe in this shitty thread too……!!
But…..you've been deceiving us too much!
Please stop causing the emotional fluctuation between joy and sorrow in us with your hands!

758: Anonymous Fairy
If you understand then pull back

759: Anonymous Fairy
It's good that you bought elves but what about money, 1-chan?

760: Anonymous Fairy
He must have sold the pepper he had.

He doesn’t want to say it because it’s embarrassing.

761: Anonymous Fairy
The other world’s people are「something like『drawing board』‥‥‥？」[1]

762: Anonymous Fairy
Wait. How can the words be readable?ww

763: １◆**Xc544iUoWE** (Jirou)
You guys are harsh
I’ve already uploaded various different images up till now
Since I have gone through the trouble of providing you guys with elf images, you should feel indebted to me at the very least

Now, I have bought two slaves this time
The first one. White Elf-chan
<Image url>
The second one. Black Elf-chan
<Image url>
Both of them getting along
<Image url>

>>>760
It was seen through…..

I’ll try putting up the pictures for the time being.

By the way I have mosaic both their faces to hide them. There wasn’t any particular deep meaning behind it…..
I wonder why. Could I be feeling possessive? Is this something like「I don’t want my elves do be seen by any trivial guys but I want to boast about them at the same time」?

Well, apart from playing with the bulletin board like this, there is no great meaning in it. Once the images became the main subject I wonder if it would be possible for something of this degree to happen,「Isn’t this really well-made? This is a CG. Once I’m done with my CG compilation, do buy them!」
I’ll be keeping a collection of elves photos anyway! For myself!

The thread's movement after that do interest me as well but it's a waste of time to wait for them to be written since I'll need to get my things done quickly.

I got ready and went down to the first floor. The other world's road in the evening or rather at night would be really dangerous so I need to return to the inn before it gets dark. The risk of an encounter in a role playing game usually increase at that time.

"I'll be going out. I'm going to be away for tonight too." I told my mother who was eating oranges under the kotatsu, straight out.

"Wait hold it right there, Jirou. You've only been playing around recently. When are you planning to get a job? It's been 2 years already but you've only been playing with that auction or something… Being a NEET forever wouldn't be able to support the house generally and we're not really rich to begin with. Hurry up and get a job soon, otherwise leave the house!" (Jirou's mother)
(Rinkage: Since everyone's calling him by that, I'll stick to that from now on too)

Even if you say so, it doesn't seem likely for me to get a job anytime soon. Much less, as a worthless high school graduate NEET like me….!

In addition, looking for a job now is even more of a distant matter for my present condition. Rather than that, I should say that my intention of getting a job was already 0 since a long time ago.

"Then I'll be leaving the house in near future. I managed to find quite a stable business recently so if it goes well, it will be possible for me to live on with that…..It might take slightly more time but I will be watching over it in the long run." [Jirou]

"In the long run huh…..Didn't you say the same thing 6 months ago?" [Jirou's mother]

I'm serious this time!

Before she pursues it any further I quickly grabbed the car keys and went outside.

In truth…..living alone might be good too but it might be harsh if I do not have a steady income first to some extent. I want a car too.

Riding in the house’s K-car, I drove to the post office for now.
I shipped out the items and withdraw some money from the ATM.

I have spent quite a lot of money in the match between Jephthah this time. I want to start getting my business on track as soon as I can.

Thus, after going shopping for a variety of things, I reached home roughly around 14:00.

I have thought of stopping by Shello-san’s house initially but I had taken a considerably long time already. I should just confirm the board’s conversation and return to the inn as quickly as possible. It would be bad if I didn’t go back before dark.
Seriously, if I don’t do something about the other world’s transportation soon, it would be really inconvenient…….

When I confirmed the board’s conversation, well, the conversation flow was roughly similar to what I had expected.
I should try following up to a certain extent.

764: Anonymous Fairy
I’ve reported it

765: Anonymous Fairy
I’ve reported it
You’ve taken out pants from the laundry

766: Anonymous Fairy
Posewwww
I’ve seen this before in a sex industry magazine a long time agowww

767: Anonymous Fairy
Two of them….
1-san is an unthinkable sexual prodigy

768: Anonymous Fairy
Eh, is this for real?
Dark Elf-chan is seriously cute though??

769: Anonymous Fairy

What is up with the white one thoughww
The quality is way too highww

770: Anonymous Fairy

The white one's tattoo?
Isn't it too upper class?

771: Anonymous Fairy

>>768
I agree I agree
It's definitely not photoshopped. Definitely not

772: Anonymous Fairy

If this is the real thing, then give us the paper that you have written on in one trip.
Also show us the face
No, please show me

773: Anonymous Fairy

I'll offer 100,000 yen for the dark child! (Rinkage: I'll offer 200,000 yen!!)

774: Anonymous Fairy

N-n-next please! Quickly!
It's not my problem anymore if you can't make it—!!
Aa–!? (while dirtying the pants)

775: Anonymous Fairy

Even though you guys were the one kept making a fool of people
Aren't you adapting way too fast…..

It's good, do it more

776: Anonymous Fairy

Looking at the high quality, it's forgivable even if these were photoshopped
The making of the ears is really good too
It's just that the white elf has slightly longer ears than the black elf

777: Anonymous Fairy

Where can I get the original image from?

Actually I'm more concern of that
Both of them have a really great model-like figure, for an amateur
They're too high level

778: Anonymous Fairy
1-san is actually living abroad
I think that he might have taken the locals there as models for pictures
Then right after the shooting, he had his way with the staffs.

If you have the photo editing software and the skill to do it, you can even change the face and body freely.
About the first and second image with the sex worker pose,
will I be able to use this metaphor for it "The retouching technology is amazing" ?

779: Anonymous Fairy
No one will believe in the other world

780: Anonymous Fairy
I believe it though
Eh? Did you guys not believe it?

781: Isolated seld ◆ 4noig329de
First image: The tattoo is seriously a minus though
Why did 1 buy this child?
Second image: A big busted dark elf came!
Have you already rub it, suck it or roll it around?
It's seriously envious damn it–!
Third image: LOL'dw
What kind of pose is that?

782: Anonymous Fairy
The material is seriously uncool

783: Anonymous Fairy
Aa…the next is video…

784: Anonymous Fairy
Enough with the one with tattoo. Please focus on the black one.

785: Anonymous Fairy
>>773
I’d offer 150,000 yen

786: Anonymous Fairy
>>782
An anime of a certain girl
Moreover the first generation

787: Anonymous Fairy
If these girls are really 1’s slaves then bring them as evidence to the Comiket the next time
Of course in an ero-cosplay!

788: Anonymous Fairy
I want to see the body!
Please show me their naked bodies!!

789: Anonymous Fairy
What mature adults we have heree

790: Anonymous Fairy
The white one!!

791: Anonymous Fairy
The black one!!

792: Anonymous Fairy
The black one!!

793: Anonymous Fairy
The black one!!

794: Anonymous Fairy
The black one!!

795: Anonymous Fairy
It’s my first time seeing an incomplete onew
Is the black one an idiotww?

796: Anonymous Fairy

The white one is really unpopular lol

797: Anonymous Fairy

Their names are?

If they are slaves then they should have names at the very least, right?

798: Anonymous Fairy

Slave No.1 and No.2

No.18 is my bride

799: Anonymous Fairy

Kusososo-san chiisu![2]

800: Anonymous Fairy

By the time it reaches 800 I want to be the godparent!

801: Anonymous Fairy

>>800

You

Go request that from a pervert

802: Anonymous Fairy

>>800

Wait for 1's reply

803: Anonymous Fairy

1 might netorare the slave beside me

804: Anonymous Fairy

It makes the chest hot to NTR a slave…

805: Anonymous Fairy

Oi

Stop that

806: Anonymous Fairy (Email address)

If 1 is going to the other world

I hope you would take me along

Will leaving my contact as application here be fine?

I have left my add

I beg of you, 1!!

807: Anonymous Fairy (Email address)
Me too, me too

808: Guan Yu
>>806
There is no such thing

809: Anonymous Fairy
Was 1 washing his pants before he came…..

810: Anonymous Fairy
It would be better to just take it off beforehand…..

811:1 ◆Xc544iUoWE (Jirou)
Hey there guys
I'm glad that you are all enjoying yourselves
I'll be going to the other world now to stay overnight at the inn with my slaves
The white one might be unpopular with you guys but she has a really cute voice, has graceful movements and is cool
I do admit that they appeared to be for the upper class people though
I'll be recording their voices this time

>>>800
Please do

(Rinkage: Translating all these drained my HP to 0 too (//￣■￣ //))

Once I finished replying, I noticed that I'm almost running out of time.
I'll continue this another time. At any rate I should go back now.
It's a depopulated board anyway so there wouldn't be much replies.

◇◆◆◆◇

By the time I reached Erishe city, the sun has starting to set.
I wonder if those guys are staying at the inn obediently. Marina aside, I am anxious about Diana…..

Erishe's 50th anniversary festival is still going on.
Come to think of it, I was planning to go around the festival once I obtained the

slave. The three of us could probably look the festival around tomorrow…. I might be able to get some ideas for my business too….

I am currently carrying a backpack on my back and holding onto other bags with both hands. These goods were brought over from the other side but due to my greed I seemed to have brought way too many different items now. Considering the distance from the house to the inn, I should have been more prudent but….I had done it unconsciously.

Walking for 120 minutes is seriously tiring….I want to rest at the inn soon as I can.

The inn is located on the central square near the main street. The hustle and bustle outside could be easily heard so it was slightly noisy to me.

Once the festival is over, the main road would still be there. However the noises from the main road might not reach a really bothersome degree.

Upon reaching the inn I left my luggage in the room and went to Diana Marina's room. Now, were the both of them able to stay in the room obediently?

"Diana, Marina, are you in—?" [Jirou]

I called out as I knocked. Should I treat them more like a slave at a time like this and order them out without question?
Well, I have already planned to go at my own pace with regards to my relationship with the slaves anyway.

"Welcome back, goshujin-sama. A guest has dropped by just now." [Diana]

"Ara, good afternoon. Jirou-san."

Hiyaaa~! Isn't that Priestess-chan!

Her usual priestess clothing is nice but the town girl attire suits her very well too. Her long blonde hair that was braided makes her look really cute.
Did she come to see me? As I thought priestess-chan and I are connected by an invisible thread…….

"Good afternoon Priestess-sama. What's going on today? Do you need anything from me?" [Jirou]

“Yes. Ah but I am not here for Jirou-san though. Diana-san here has something that she wants to hear from me so I’ve come here after speaking to her using spirit transmission. It’s rare to have elves who can use spirit transmission nowadays so I was surprised.” [Priestess-chan]

Something that she wants to hear?
And what is a spirit transmission? Something like a telephone?? The spirits are seriously too omnipotent.

“There is something that I want to hear so I used the spirit to call her over. I’m not too familiar with the geographical features of this area so I thought it would be faster to ask a local priestess.” [Diana]

Yes it came–.
I understand that she wouldn’t come see me without any particular reason!
Of course I understand it! I just felt like saying it in a destiny-like way!

“Is there anything that you need to hear from Priestess-sama?” [Jirou]

“It’s about『that day』.” [Diana]

Ah yes yes. It’s that day isn’t it,
That day is an important thing isn’t it. As expected it is necessary to get the advice from someone of the same sex.
Your master is ready to help too whenever you like!

“I see. Well I have bought a cake so you can take your time with the conversation while having tea. Marina, is Marina here?” [Jirou]

“Nn~, munyamunya, I can’t eat anymore~” [Marina]

“Marina has been sleeping since after lunch. I have heard it before that sleeping right after eating might turn someone into cow but it appears to be true…..” [Diana]

This person has been ingrained with too much freedom.
Isn’t it amazing to be in a position to receive three meals and a nap daily! If that’s the case I want to be a slave too!
Even though it was enjoyable looking at her sleeping face and her sleeping posture, I should wake her up for the time being.

“Oi, Marina get up! I’ve bought cake.” [Jirou]

“Nn~? Waa~, aa, my liege, welcome back. Marina can still eat.” [Marina]

“Good morning. I have Marina’s portion here too. Once you are awake go make the tea for the total number of people here.” [Jirou]

“Goshujin-sama is lenient to Marina…..” [Diana]

The other world and Japan has roughly the same length of time in a day and similar daylight hours but the climate is slightly different. This place is warmer than Japan.

It’s quite cold now in Japan since it’s December.
In addition, today is the 24th.
That’s right, it’s Christmas Eve.
Naturally I don’t have any engagement during Christmas Eve but since I have people to spend it with this year, I specifically bought and brought the whole cake here…..

I’m sorry. I was in quite high spirit myself.
Moreover, Priestess-chan has also joined in. Including a high elf and dark elf, the three different elves have gathered here. I wouldn’t be a man if this doesn’t put me in high spirit!

“Today is a slightly special day back in my hometown. There is a custom to celebrate it by eating cake. That’s why, let’s eat this together. Please do join in too, Priestess-sama.” [Jirou]
(Rinkage: I think he has forgotten that he was supposed to have a ‘memory loss’)

I distributed the cake with my personal knife. For safety, I bought chocolate cake, or to be more precise Buche de Noel. Although I wasn’t sure if this might suit the other world’s taste. That reminds me, I have not seen this kind of cake here before.

Marina served the tea, handed out the cake and sat herself at the table. Apparently everyone hasn’t seen this type of cake before. I wonder what kind of reaction will they be giving after eating.

Marina is about to put the cake in her mouth. Diana is watching the situation.

Priestess-chan is drinking tea.
This asshole Diana. She was waiting for Marina to taste the food first before trying it herself.

“!? A-a-a my liege. What is this? What is this–? It’s sweet. It’s extremely sweet!” [Marina]

The pupils in her purple eyes became perfectly round as if she was in ecstasy while she opened her mouth wide and ate the cake heartily.
(Rinkage: Something like this -> image)

On looking at Marina’s reaction, Diana and Priestess-chan finally put the cake in their mouths as well.

“”Varasudanya””[3] [Diana & Priestess-chan]

“It’s sweet. It’s sweet. Goshujin-sama is really sweet. I have never expected you to let your slaves eat something as good as this. My cheeks are f – a – l – l – i – n – g o – f – f –” [Diana]
(Rinkage: Comes from Japanese onomatopoeia: So delicious your cheeks will fall off)

“Is this a cake from Jirou-san’s hometown? It’s my first time eating a cake as delicious as this…… I was supposed to have lived a long life but the world is certainly huge…..” [Priestess-chan]

I’m glad it’s popular among them.
Could it be that, there are no natural style cakes like this over here?

Since I have “cook” as my vocation too, I might be able to make a profit if I start selling cakes here.
I am not sure how effective it will be but it might be interesting to run a stall during the time of the festival.

However, I wonder how many years has it been since I last eaten a cake and done something Christmas-like like today. If I were to eat chicken for dinner later on then spend the night with the elves in bed at night, it would be so perfect, it might bring tears to my eyes!

But well before that, I should listen to what *the day* is about.

Footnotes

1. 異世界人「この『ギャバン』というのは・・・・・？
2. クソソソさんチィーッス
3. ヴァラスダーニャ！

Chapter 026 – The smell of Sunday on that day

It appears that Priestess-chan already knew the history of how I obtained Diana and Marina after hearing the story from Diana herself.

I was wondering how someone from the elf clan would think of a guy who enslaved a high elf but she didn’t appear to hold any special feeling of antipathy either. Since she is an elderly elf who has already experienced sweet and sour things in life, I guess she wouldn’t be shaken up by each and every thing.
Either that or Diana must have explained it really well to her.

—In any case, it seems like I am still able to continue my friendly relationship with Priestess-chan from now on. Or rather, I can use Diana as an excuse to deepen my friendship with her!
That said I should try asking about *that day*.

“So…what is『That day』all about? I am actually not really informed about that side of the story….. It might be a subject that is difficult for you all to answer though…..hahaha” [Jirou]

“It’s not about menstruation.” [Priestess-chan]

As expected of Priestess-chan!
She declared it clearly and distinctly!

“*Cough*…..*that day* actually refers to the elves’ rest day, goshujin-sama. For the elves that are staying in human dwellings, they require『a space only for themselves』to take a slow rest regularly. Otherwise, their spirit magic might become unusable. Although elves that live in a dense forest with spirit power do not need this cultural practice…..” [Diana]

“A slow pace is it…” [Jirou]

“It’s not just relaxing at a slow pace, Jirou-san. It should be a place where humans couldn’t lay their hands on as much as possible and also a place that they wouldn’t be able to enter from now on too. On top of that it needs to be a place with dense spirit power and it needs to be close to where they are living as the conditions. So, it’s something that is really important for elves to find that specific place for their daily use.” [Priestess-chan]

So I guess it’s something like a place…..to recover the spirit power. To be specific, a power spot…. If this were a game, it would be「a place to recover your MP once you stay there」…? Well I guess something like that is essential to the elves. Especially since Priestess-chan is similar to a spirit magician in her work.

“So that’s the reason, goshujin-sama. Please permit me to act independently on *that day* until I find the specific place only for me.” [Diana]

“Aa, I don’t mind it. It would be bad for a human like me to know Priestess-sama’s place, wouldn’t it? That aunty from the temple has also mentioned it before. That『the place that the elves go to on *that day* would only be known by someone who has an intimate relationship with them』.” [Jirou]

“Th-That’s right. O-Of course once I found my place, I will definitely inform goshujin-sama! Immediately!” [Diana]

“Un. But you don’t need to force yourself alright. It’s better to have some kind of understanding between races.” [Jirou]

When I replied so, once again Diana started sulking by saying, “Muu–! I don’t know! Pui–!”
I would actually like to know it alright. Good grief.

However, well for the time being I’m glad I knew what *that day* is about. It’s quite regrettable that it’s not a mating period. But of course I have not expected it to be really true! That is natural!
But why did they need to describe *that day* in some kind of special code-like expression?
Were there embarrassing factors inside?

“If you do not allow them to take a proper rest on *that day*, there were cases whereby the elves’ sense of reason become weaker so please take precaution of this, Jirou-san.” [Priestess-chan]

Sense of reason becoming weaker….
As I thought isn’t that similar to them being in heat?!

◇◆◆◆◇

After that, Priestess-chan was invited for dinner too.

Putting aside Marina the fish-lover, even though Diana and Priestess-chan ended up ordering fish dishes too, I wasn't sure how popular fish dishes are in this world…..

Hence I tried asking everyone at the dinner table. Although fish are not harvested much in this world and they are also quite rare, those were actually not the main reasons. To put it simply, in the end it was just「they just love what they love」.
Well to me I prefer meat to fishes too so I guess it's that kind of story.

Even though Erishe is located so close to the sea, the fish supply here are not really high. That was because small sized fishing boats were not able to deal with the monsters in the sea. Since the boats here are not huge merchant vessels or warships with metals reinforced at the bottom, it would likely be hard for them to fish from the sea.

However since Erishe's harbour penetrates deeply into the mainland, local fish are still easily obtainable as there are less monster encounter. (unless they go too far to the sea)
Needless to say when it comes to inland, even if the other areas are also facing towards the sea, their seafood is still incomparable to Erishe.

That said, if we were to compare the prices between meat and fish, the fish is still in fact more expensive than the meat even though it's still not comparable to Japan's high class item like matsutake.
Well, the profit for each item in this area is unstable so I should try surveying more.

So…., after a meal.
I was sleeping alone in the room.

Eh….? What happens to the fun time sleeping together with the elves….? That might be what you were wondering about but, I had no choice……

We drank liquor and proceeded happily from there but Priestess-chan who unexpectedly has a low tolerance to alcohol passed out really fast halfway through. So when I helped carry her to the next room, I ended up telling them, “I’ll leave Priestess-sama to you.”

And….that was how I got into this state.

Aa….if this goes on, their image of a「Goshujin-sama who doesn’t sleep together」will gradually increase and might end up as an established fact soon…. I-I’m a man who will be able to pull it out too if I want to! Possibly! Most likely!

The next day, after taking a light breakfast, we escorted the Priestess-chan who had a hangover back to the temple. Then the three of us, Diana, Marina and I went sightseeing around the festival.

Having elf girls on each side of me as I look around the festival is an act that might become a legend when you’re a local isn’t it? I wonder if someone will be able to put my current gallant figure in a photograph. Then I’ll frame it and decorate it at the front door….

But well, we really stand out, seriously. Diana’s appearance is seriously conspicuous. By the looks of it, it might be a good idea to purchase a huge robe from somewhere and put it on her. It is still fine now since we are in the middle of the festival. However if we do not hide her tattoo (strictly speaking the actual thing is different) once the festival ends, there might be a strange rumour spreading that「this person is always in festival mood」.

It appeared to be the first time for Marina to visit a festival in a big city like this. She was making a stop at almost every stall that seemed interesting. Although Diana might say that “I’m sweet to Marina” again, I should probably buy something for her later.

Unlike Marina who was fidgeting restlessly, Diana was behaving in a dignified manner. As I thought, are all high elves slightly different…..?
It could possibly be that she was simply not interested in the festival but even when she was attracting so much attention, she just remained aloof.

Well, I guess that’s because High Elf is an elf royalty. They have nothing that they can say even if they are in places that can be seen by common people. Judging from the feeling, it might be different in comparison to a lower middle class person like me.

But you know……since Diana was attracting all the attention, I ended up standing out at the same time. It made me feel uncomfortable sticking out like this. So I decided to buy something as a disguise. That is the first thing to do. Festival sightseeing comes after!

Therefore, we dropped by the second-hand clothing store that I purchased my clothes from previously.

I will only be buying a robe here for Diana this time. At any rate, even the average clothes here are expensive despite being second-hand clothing.

By the way, Diana and Marina were still wearing the same clothing as what they wore when I first got them from the slave trading house 2 days ago. Both of them have a certain extent of undergarment change with them so they are not particularly dirty, but I would like to buy clothes for them at the very least with my ability as well.
And I would like to use the privilege as their master to try dressing them up in clothing that I like too.

What they currently have on them are cute but as expected I would like to dress them up in this kind of clothing or that kind of clothing……..
If it's the other world, such rumour, "Look at that guy, he's letting his girlfriend wear something like that….it's either a real otaku couple or it's already the end of the world." will not be created and we are free to put on whatever costume we want without restrictions…..

A second-hand robe that looked just right happened to be for sale so I bought it.
It was a plain dark grey robe with a hood. The price was roughly 160 El.
….Though 160 El is not exactly cheap. If I were to convert it to Japanese yen, it will be roughly 24,000 yen. It's actually not an amount of money that I will feel comfortable spending.

Sheets were something that was sold cheaply at the flea market and the fabric itself doesn't appear to be a luxurious item. I wonder if there are any special effects added to this robe similar to protective gears from the fantasy world.

Ah, I should appraise it at a time like this.

“The mirror of truth.”

【Type】
Body Armour

【Name】
Dark Grey Robe + 1

【Commentary】
A robe that can be equipped by any profession
Besides the magic colour『Dark Grey』, the divine protection; blade-proof has also been added

【Magic Properties】
Blade-Proof D

【Spirit’s blessing】
None

【Owner】
Jirou Ayase

It appeared! An RPG-like description!
It is sold ordinarily in the second-hand clothing store but I guess this is a magic item. This is indeed the style of a fantasy world. I might be able to find something unexpected if I were to appraise all the items here one by one when I have the time.

“—What did you do just a while ago? Goshujin-sama?” [Diana]

“Eh, what is it?” [Jirou]

“It happened before previously too. When you were taking a look at Jephthah’s map the other day, the same thing occurs. I could feel the spirit power fluctuating.” [Diana]

Aarara. Since the spirits were the one doing the appraising when I used the

Mirror of Truth, it was found out by the High Elf, Diana…..

“It was just your imagination…… is what I wanted to say but, I will explain it to you soon so at the moment it’s still a *s.e.c.r.e.t.*” [Jirou]

I tried deceiving her by imitating Diana’s style. I should probably explain it once I am accustomed to my inherent jobs.
(Rinkage: He has another two more skills that he hasn’t actually use yet)

“……I will be waiting. I look forward to it.” [Diana]

Why am I enraptured by Diana’s smile all of the sudden?
Could you not show me an expression that will make my heart throb! I might really fall for you if the tattoo is gone!

I put the robe that was purchased on Diana.
The size is, well slightly big but it looks fine overall. Since it practically covers her entire body, she should not stand out anymore.

All right, now let’s check out the festival once again! Will I not be buying a slave collar? I ignored that question when I was asked by Diana.

There are various kinds of stalls set up in the festival. The food stalls are to be expected but there are also accessory stalls, talisman stalls and there is even a stall that resembles a show booth.

I am running low in money myself so it might be bad if I do not find the means to make more money as soon as possible but I could see if I can find any leeway in the festival that I can make use of.
I bought Diana and Marina each a horseshoe pattern hairclip and had lunch together at the food stalls. I was able to spend a picturesque riajuu-like time in the festival.
Well, should we try entering the show booth next?

“What kind of show booth is this?” [Jirou]

It’s a huge black show booth roughly about 10m in diameter and 3m in height.
There were naturally words written there but since I couldn’t read it I asked Diana.
It seemed to be a picture of a magician in black robe in the process of casting magic. There were letters written on the picture.

“This is a magician’s booth, goshujin-sama. I think this is probably a booth where the magician will be performing their magic.” [Diana]

Aa, so a magic show.
Let me see the level of your magic here! Show me the super illusion of the other world!
Well, I guess it’ll just be at the degree whereby he will make a dove fly out of the magic hat or something similar.

Chapter 027 – The smell of magician in the other world's magic

We went inside after paying the admission fee of 10 El per person. (Total: 30 El for the three of us). Based on the estimation of 1 El = 150 yen, the entrance fee for each person should be 1500 yen. It was slightly expensive but it couldn't be helped since it's a festival price.

The interior looked pretty simple with a stage at the back and rows of chairs lined up on the floor for the audience. The chairs were placed on the steps installed so the stage would be visible for the audience sitting at the back row as well.
It didn't seem possible to find any available seats in front judging from the number of customers coming in so we decided to grab the seats in the middle.

"Have Diana or Marina come to a place like this before?" [Jirou]

"If I have 10 El with me, I can use them as my food expenses for 5 days…… Besides, the place Marina was staying was situated in a rural area." [Marina]

"This is actually my first time too. I'm quite excited about it." [Diana]

Then it's the first time for all of us.
Come to think of it, since the people in this world do not have something like a television, if they were to watch a magic performance all of a sudden, it didn't seem likely for them to not be engrossed. Although I have seen a magic show performed by the natives from Africa in one of the programme before, the response was fairly laughable. Even if this show might not reach that degree, it may still be somewhat close.

Diana aside,……..I might be able to see a nice reaction coming from Marina…… Rather than watching the magic show, it should be more interesting observing her instead……

"……..? I-Is there something on Marina's face? I-It's really embarrassing if you were to keep looking at me." [Marina]

Marina fidgeted. Whoops. It was a false start. My observation ended up being too obvious unintentionally. I wound up checking out her face, her hair and *etc.*

As soon as I seated myself next to her, she was looking at me with upturned eyes…….That has quite a high destructive power.
「Since the inside of the tent is dark, it will be alright to hold onto her……」
That thought crossed my mind for an instant but my sense of reason managed to win over at the last moment.

No, my arm was twisted at the last moment! It's quite painful!
But it's alright! My arm will not be broken easily just by the strength of Diana's slender arm.

By the way, Diana is sitting on the other side, next to me. A flower in both hands. I am currently in such a blessed state if you exclude the part where my arm was being twisted.

"Diana. It's feeling quite painful so can you release it soon?" [Jirou]

"It doesn't seem that painful to you. I'll need to learn the right way to do this from Rebecca the next time….." [Diana]

It's fine even if you don't learn it!
If my arm were broken in this other world, I have a feeling that they might connect my arm back using a mysterious treatment. To begin with, why is she twisting my arm…….

"That's because goshujin-sama is a liar." [Diana]

Diana answered it as if she heard my inner monologue.
Well I do understand that I am certainly not the honest type. I have swindler as one of my vocation but I don't think I can bring myself to say that out loud honestly……

However I am not really lying about anything in particular now so I don't really understand what this High Elf-sama's talking about.

Just as I thought of arguing back, the stage was illuminated by a strange bright light all of a sudden. The show seems to be starting.

The song played using the violin and harpsichord prime the audience's expectation as to what will follow. Audio recording and playback equipment don’t exist in this world so real live performance is used as the BGM.

I am not sure what are the worth of musical instruments in this world but if I were to bring them over from the other side, they might be able to fetch quite a good price in my opinion…. I’ll be adding this as one of my subject to research as well.

While I was thinking of various things as I stared off into space absent-mindedly, an elderly man who appears to be the「so-called magician」got up the stage and seemed to be making some kind of preparation. Although, the setup done appeared to be indescribably poor.
My anticipation of watching an illusion magic is completely shattered now.

After a while, the elderly man who was finally done with his preparation turned to the audience.

“A good day to everyone here today. I’m Jiri Balazs the magician…… I would like to extend my appreciation to all the audience for coming to my booth today. Well then, please take your time and enjoy my various demonstration of mysterious magic from the Country of Fire!” [magician]

After saying so, he fluttered his mantle and withdrew back once to the inner stage.

The audience started applauding or whistling, building up the excitement. As I thought, there aren’t much entertainment in this world. It has been many years since I last heard something like that……

The magician re-appeared again after a short while with a glass bottle in his hand.

“Now please watch this carefully as I perform this mysterious water magic. In just a moment, I will fill up this empty glass bottle with water!” [magician]

Uhhiyo~ what an old fashioned trick!
But it might still be interesting to watch.

The magician closed his eyes as he looked up and spread both his hands out. He seemed to be murmuring a chant. He stretched both his hands out to the bottle and cried out loud as he opened his eyes.

“Oooouuu! Rise up from the atmosphere, fill this up with rain! Water! Heed my demand now and make your appearance–! Oooouu—!!!!” [magician]

After the magician shouted that line out, water could be seen filling up the bottle little by little.
It’s quite a classic magic method but it’s not that bad. Though is it a way of attracting the attention by overflowing the bottle with water?

The audience still appeared to be excited nonetheless.
As I have expected, Marina was astonished by that sight. “It’s amazing. It’s mysterious.” She kept repeating those lines over and over.
However, it was unexpected when Diana also seemed impressed as she muttered, “It’s unbelievable for him to be able to perform that miracle with his own power….”

After that, the magician performed various kinds of magic one after another.
An apple teleported from point A to point B「Teleportation」.
An apple that was thrown was stopped in mid-air「Telekinesis」.
Making his body float up 1m above the ground「Levitation」.
An audience was asked to write a symbol down and he was able to see through it and guessed it correctly「Remote Viewing (RV)」.

Is the magic in this world something similar to ESP?…….
I recalled a special supernatural program shown on television before in the olden days…..

So, does it mean that using psychic power is the same as using magic? Since this is the other world, I can’t deny that possibility but it’s hard to tell if this is a fake or a real thing…..
Even when I tried asking Diana and Marina, all they replied back was, “What magic trick?” In the first place, it was their first time seeing a magician themselves. Well I guess I should stop looking at everything with a curious penetrating gaze.

“Then this is my final great magic! I’ll show you a fire magic!” [magician]

So the last one is Pyrokinesis?
But a fire magic should be the most magic-like one among all the magic shown so far. It’s the basic magic even in RPG.

“But before this, I would like to invite the audience here to try challenging themselves and try using『Fire Magic』as well! In fact, it is actually a custom in the Country of Fire. Anyone who reaches adulthood would be able to use『Fire Magic』. It’s a magic that can be used by anyone.” [magician]

Oo! What a nostalgic idea! It’s the one by which they invite the audience to do it together! So isn’t it that? The person with psychic power will then face the television and all the attention will be diverted to him.

The assistant started up a bonfire on stage and cut off the stage lighting, leaving only the brightly lit up bonfire as the source of light.

“As everyone knows, this is fire. But has anyone actually ever considered how a fire came to be? I bet everyone has light up a fire themselves before, or putting out a fire, or some might have even experienced getting burnt by fire before. But have you all seen an uncontrollable fire before? What about burning cinders? …….There are an infinite types of fire but all of them are the very same fire. You should get to know that fire and understand it. That is what made it possible for us to use fire magic.” [magician]
(Rinkage: I translated it as “uncontrollable fire” here since the word “火” was used in all the earlier parts but “火事” is used here instead. They are actually both “fire” but “火” is more of a generic word for “fire” while “火事” refers to a situation related to fire itself or an uncontrollable fire.)

While saying so, the magician lit up a small fire on his fingertip. The size should be similar to the fire usually seen on a candle. It’s just a small flame.

“Then try raising your finger the way I did then build a strong image of fire there in your mind. Try looking at the bonfire. It might be good to visualize it strongly with the intention to reproduce the same thing as the bonfire. This might be the same as trying to seize the clouds in the sky to you but I can assure you that this is something that can be done by anyone.” [magician]

I see. I don’t get it.

Diana seemed to have tried it a little but she gave up immediately after while Marina was chanting, “Appear~, appear~, fire appear~” repeatedly.
I have also given it a try but it really is the same as seizing the clouds in the sky….. Be it ESP or magic, it didn’t appear to be possible….

“Diana has given up already? Or do elves have bad affinity with fire?” [Jirou]

“Aa no that’s not really it, goshujin-sama…….Even though elves are accustomed to using magic related to spirits, we do not have the aptitude for demon element related magic or any other magic.” [Diana]

“Demon element? Te– aa….I think I heard it from Rebecca-san before. There will be monsters appearing in woods that have dense demon elements and those monsters will attack humans with strong magical power. Something like that?” [Jirou]

“Demon element is an invisible substance that drifts around this world similar to air. The magician will then use this as his own magic and converts this into the form that he wants by envisioning it. That is what you call magic, goshujin-sama. That magician has not relayed that important point. It’s cunning of him.” [Diana]

“Do I have magical power too? If I do not have any to begin with then will I not be able to use any magic?” [Jirou]

“Magic is something that everyone has. Of course goshujin-sama has it too…..To put it briefly, demon element is something that enters a human body through the air…..” [Diana]

“I see. I’ll see if I can give it a try.” [Jirou]

The audience around seemed to be on the verge of giving up soon. Well that was obvious. I wasn’t sure how much the people here know about demon element (with exception to Rebecca since that person is knowledgeable) so it didn’t seem likely even if they were told to produce fire by just praying…..

“Even though I have magician as my vocation, it still took me one year before I am able to use fire magic successfully for the first time. However there are some people with natural talent in it too so they managed to succeed in a shorter period of time.” [magician]

It took him one year?
If it had taken him one year to do it even when he has the vocation, then it doesn’t seem plausible to succeed by giving it a try in a place like this. Marina seemed depressed now after failing despite trying numerous times. She looks really cute when she appears so down. I’ll comfort her later!

Come to think of it, I have magician as my vocation too.
I am still not really sure if this person is a magician or someone with ESP but I should give it a try on my part. Being a magician might be quite regrettable but if there is a possibility that I possess the ability to use mysterious power after going through great pain in this other world then it's worth the challenge!

"Oya oya, has everyone given up already? The strong image of fire, the heat from the fire, the force from the fire, the light from the fire. You need to recall them and put all of your experiences with fire up till now into practice. To make 『fire』 appear in this world, you need to first manifest your own thoughts into the principle of this world. That is also one of the basis of magic. There are still many hidden mysteries." [magician]

While paying no heed to the preaching of that talkative magician, I tried challenging myself in summoning the fire.

I tried to envision demon elements gathering around my fingertip.
The condition of ignition is fairly easy. A space to light up the fire is required and I should have the source of ignition. The fuel can be use as inflammable then it should be completed overall with the oxygen after.
In this case, I should be creating the source of ignition using magical power instead of the heat. I guess I can supplement the fuel with the demon element. There should be oxygen around without a doubt as a theory.

I was able to concentrate unexpectedly.
I wasn't sure if it has anything to do with my vocation but I was able to make all the noises around disappear and focussed my thoughts on my fingertip.

I could feel something that felt like demon elements gathering around my fingertip.
This sensation could only be described as mysterious all in all.

I wonder if I should convert all these elements into inflammable substance. The easiest image should be gas but….as I thought when it comes to gas, all that came to mind were something explosive. For safety should I visualize the image of evaporated alcohol?……. No, that might explode too……
I'm down to my last source of ignition but well, a spark should be good enough.

By associating it with a lighter's flint I had thought that I might be able to create a spark from the tip of my finger but well, I guess it's no use trying from a useless source from the start!

I stared at the bonfire and strongly visualize the same image on my fingertip. Then, after gathering enough elements, I converted all into evaporated alcohol. (visualizing it)

Finally, there are sparks coming out.

Bou–!!

A flame larger than what I had envisioned flared up. It's a success!
The fire lit up and burnt out in an instant. It might be due to the visualization of the vaporized alcohol so the combustion ended in just a short while.
I had never expected myself to succeed as well so I was surprised and lost my concentration.

"Wa-wa-wa, it's amazing. It's really amazing! Was my liege a magician previously?" [Marina]

"S-Since he's my goshujin-sama, it's natural that he's able to do this much." [Diana]

Marina's eyes were shining brightly as she drew closer. Your breast! Your breast is hitting me!
Diana was surprised too but she looked pleased at the same time. It's fine even if your breast is hitting me!

I could hear the other audience whispering about it too but it didn't really matter since it's dark inside this tent. Since that happened in an instant, there were many other guests who did not notice it so I didn't need to worry about standing out needlessly.
No, I was already attracting a lot of attention with Diana and Marina.

"Oya oya. My bad since I didn't know there is someone among the audience who is in the same line of profession…..Alright! Since we're also short of time, I'll be showing you the grand fire magic to conclude today's show!" [magician]

Although it was felt great to be treated as his peers, the magician rushed in the final performance to mark the end of the magic show. I have worked so hard in succeeding the fire magic so I actually wished he had said something more….

The magician produced a ball of fire and moved it around freely then used it to burn the paper that hung up. It was quite a sight to behold watching the fireball flying around in the dark. It was a pleasant stage show to me.

The stage show finally ended with the fire magic performance.

Even though I did enjoy the show myself, I was really glad to have come here since Diana and Marina were enjoying themselves. As expected, the most important thing in a date is to entertain the girls.

……But, magic is it.
As I thought, was my vocation the reason I was able to succeed from the beginning?….

However that magician took one year despite having the same vocation too. Could I possibly have some kind of special talent?…….I started having strange expectations….

That magician did say that fire magic is something like the basic to the mystery of magic. I guess I should try studying it myself to tackle the various possibilities.

Chapter 028 – The smell of tears from the unsold 'goods'

“Iya, unexpectedly it was quite enjoyable. Since the entrance fee was high, I was getting disappointed after thinking of the various possibilities.” [Jirou]

“I-It’s Marina’s first time experiencing something that enjoyable too.” [Marina]

“If that’s the case then I’m happy too. What about Diana?” [Jirou]

“……Thank you very much, goshujin-sama. Even though we’re just slaves, you have allowed us to enjoy something like this. It was my first time watching a magic performance directly but it was truly a wonderful experience.” [Diana]

“What are you saying there all of the sudden……Diana, are you possibly fabricating your character? Your tone sounds strange too.” [Jirou]

“Character? What is that? And I don’t really have any strange tone. For some reason goshujin-sama is always harsh to me.” [Diana]

“I’m not being harsh in particular…… Diana is really well-informed so I am relying on you.” [Jirou]

“T-Then it’s good. Goshujin-sama…..it’s fine to rely more on me, alright?” [Diana]

“O-Ou…..I will do so from now on….I’ll be depending on the two of you.” [Jirou]

“M-Marina will do her best too so she’ll not be a hindrance!” [Marina]

“…..By the way, is goshujin-sama’s vocation a magician? I have always thought goshujin-sama’s vocation to be a merchant……. so I was really surprised a while ago.” [Diana]

“Vocation? I have both merchant and magician as my vocations. Also a jewellery scholar.” [Jirou]

“Triple jobs!?” [Diana]

“Oh, my liege has three vocations?” [Marina]

“More or less yeah. I have just received the blessings recently. It’s merely a form of vocation. Come to think of it, what’s Diana’s vocation? I haven’t heard it from you yet.” [Jirou]

“……….” [Diana]

“Nn? What’s wrong?” [Jirou]

“…..It’s not established yet.” [Diana]

“What?” [Jirou]

“…..That’s what I’ve said. My vocation has yet to be established.” [Diana]

“Eh? Could you explain it in detail?” [Jirou]

“…….I didn’t really want to say anything since there was already the matter with regards to the contract the other day. You might think that it’s bias again but…….High Elves have the freedom to choose their own vocation. I haven’t decided yet so I do not have a vocation currently.” [Diana]

“Seriously? So you can choose『magician』or even『swordsman』if you want to? Ah, can you choose the inherent job as well?” [Jirou]

“As expected even I can’t choose an inherent job but I can decide on any occupation as long as they are well-known. Goshujin-sama, what vocation would be good for you? Since I am goshujin-sama’s slave….I would like you to decide it for me.” [Diana]

“Nn? Vocation is something that you will be living with throughout your life, isn’t it? Regardless of what the circumstances is, I don’t think I should be the one deciding on something like this….. Diana should also have an objective that you’re aiming for, don’t you?” [Jirou]

“……Ariosshii…….even slaves…..” [Diana]
(Rinkage: アリオッシィ)

“?” [Jirou]

“I-I…..no….that’s right. The thought about vocation has not come to my mind so far.” [Diana]

“I see. Well you shouldn’t rush into it. Just take your time deciding it for yourself. Besides, Diana needs to prioritize the said guidance first, don’t you? If there is anything that I can do then I’ll help you accordingly.” [Jirou]

“No, the guidance is currently at a point whereby we can’t advance hastily anymore, goshujin-sama. So you don’t need to worry about it. ” [Diana]

“Is that so? Then I guess it’ll be fine to deal with your vocation and guidance slowly.” [Jirou]

“Yes…..it’ll be good to go slowly. Slowly.” [Diana]

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After coming out from the magician’s booth, I felt slightly hungry so we decided to take a short respite at a teahouse nearby.

Based on the conversation we had at the magician’s booth, it appears that Diana, or rather High Elves have the freedom to choose their own vocation. It sounded like some kind of cheat to me………..No, since their life span is considerably long, could it be part of the spirit’s affection in allowing them to choose their own vocation so they will not suffer? Although that might not be it…….
Nevertheless, I will be troubled if she were to ask me to choose that vocation for her.

…….well it did come across my mind to have Diana acquire a vocation that will make it easier for me to live here from now on. However the reason Diana became my slave was due to the guidance. So once she achieved the guidance, she will be returning to her own country. In other words, considering that I’m just her temporary master, I will not be able to feel at ease choosing something that she will be carrying with her for her entire life………

Diana certainly did say that I can choose for her so it should be fine even if I do so….. but how should I put it…..It might be harsh to transfer your feelings to someone else.

“…………………” [Jirou]

“…..Aa my liege, are you listening?” [Marina]

“…..Eh? Ah, sorry about it. I didn’t hear that. What was it again?” [Jirou]

“P-Please give Marina a job. Even though Marina is a slave, what I have done all this while was just eating………My liege has gone through the trouble in choosing Marina so I would like to do something to repay my liege back.” [Marina]

It’s really commendable.
Honestly, shouldn’t she be more wary since someone literally bought her with money?
Or are all slaves like this? If that’s the case then I should save up money and get another slave. But Marina did say it herself that she’s a good-for-nothing and she doesn’t seem to be popular in this world too. Hence there is a possibility that she was overthinking it when someone bought her…….

“You don’t need to deprecate yourself that much Marina. I don’t have any job to give you now but I’ll be counting on you with various tasks soon. For the time being, just take your time to relax and deepen our friendship like this.” [Jirou]

“My liege is being too kind to a slave……I-I have never expected to be told something like that…….Th-This is no good. It will be too much of a blessing……” [Marina]

She has never been treated that kindly by anyone before? When I bought her the hairclip earlier, she was being abnormally thankful about it too……
Will it be better for me to declare it clearly to her now?

“I’ll be frank about this, Marina. I have bought Marina with the intention of making you happy from the beginning. The thought of buying you just to make you unhappy has never crossed my mind at all. And we will be also sleeping in the same futon together from now on.” [Jirou]

………

Ahh–!! I blurted out my real intention by accident! This is bad! There is a limit to what I should declare out! After all the trouble I have been through in making today an operation to raise their impression of me! Even if I had managed raised any flag today, I might have broken it now! My flag is broken!!

“Heu…y-you’re teasing a stupid slave like me once again. M-Marina is stupid so I might end up taking it seriously.” [Marina]

Alright! My flag doesn’t seem to be broken.

But, Marina is really cute.
Seriously, what makes her so cute? Despite portraying a strong impression with her pair of alluring eyes, she is actually a hetare. Could that be the reason? …..However, she can be truly foolish at times so I might need to educate her…..she looks like the type who will easily be deceived by bad people…….Somehow I don’t like this. It sounds like a father-like sexual love now.

“M-Marina already belongs to my liege from the beginning. I do not dislike it…..when my liege says that I am cute, I was really happy…..” [Marina]

“I see…..but didn’t Marina first swore loyalty to Diana?” [Jirou]

“T-That was because princess is a princess so I got confused……A-At that time, I got nervous so I blurted out something strange….Just when I thought it was over, princess asked me to swear allegiance to her. I had always longed to be a knight-sama so I ended up thinking if I can really be one……” [Marina]

“Calm down Marina. Just calm down.” [Jirou]

“Marina, has been an unsold ‘goods’ for a long time. I received knight as my vocation but I was told that a woman can’t be a knight. Mother has also died. I’ve always been alone. Day after day I have waited but no one bought me. If this goes on, I was threatened by them to go to the mountain. But I can’t do anything at all…….” [Marina]

Words flowed out from her continuously like a broken dam.
No matter how nonchalant one might be, they will never be able to remain at ease when they are sold as slaves…… They wouldn’t know what kind of people who will be buying them. Nor would they know what will be done to them….. I don’t really understand what she meant by ‘go to the mountain’ but her mind was wearing off for a long time.

“Calm down, Marina……. I will not let anyone hurt you anymore. You have me and Diana as well. We are…that’s right. I thought it might be good for us to become something like a family. That's why, it'll be alright for you to live on peacefully from now." [Jirou]

"M-My liege….really? For me to…." [Marina]

Tears flowed out of her eyes as she started sobbing without minding the public's eye.
Diana who has been watching me quietly since just now started stroking Marina's head. It must be a rare sight for an elf to comfort someone from the Turk tribe. We ended up attracting the attention of all the other customers. I guess I'm used to it now.

Well Diana aside, I bought Marina on my own free will so I did not intend to cast her out midway. I will do my best to make her happy…..I am still not sure how I can go about it yet but I guess I should start by making sure she can live without excess and deficiency.
At any rate, I should do my best in my business.
There is no other choice but to be more serious in it now.

Once Marina has calmed down, we left the store after a short while.
We should return to the inn and rest up for today.

"My liege, I apologize for losing my composure a while ago." [Marina]

"No, I was happy to hear Marina's feelings. My best regards from now on, Marina." [Jirou]

"Y-Yes-! I will be serving my liege for as long as I live!" [Marina]

Marina's eyes were slightly red, possibly due to all the crying earlier. However the smile that she gave me was the best one I've ever seen.

There are no modern people in existence who will not fall in love with that smile…..

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As soon as we returned to the inn, the first thing that Diana said was, "I will be sleeping with goshujin-sama too. I will not allow you to sleep with Marina alone………………that was what Rebecca said." [Diana]

Are you serious?…….

Chapter 029 – The smell of a good-for-nothing at night in the other world

Putting aside the reason behind Rebecca-san's words, I had not expected to sleep together with Diana too…..No, it would be a lie if I were to deny it. I did have delusions like this before……but….

MY HEART IS NOT PREPARED FOR IT YET!

But I'm also a man! I'll do it! I'll really do it! I will do it by borrowing the power of alcohol!

For the time being, we decided to return to the room. After taking a bath, we went to the dining room to have our dinner.

——A brief digression. There is a proper bath in this inn. Hot water is available in the bathroom for the guests even in the evening.

I first expected that it would be quite a hard labour bringing the water all the way from the well so when I asked the inn's manager about it, he replied back「We have our own『Water Jar』in this inn」. Apparently there is an item called「Water Jar」that provides an infinite amount of water so most of the water used in this inn is supplied by this jar. Are the items created using spirit stones and magic crystals, carried only by the inn in Erishe and several other houses? As I thought, I couldn't help but think that the inn used by the Solo house is definitely luxurious.

The bathroom itself was built of stone. Although the inside wasn't really big, it could still fit up to four people so it was sufficient to me. If the guests were to request for it, they could call for a masseur or even for an akasuri service. (Rinkage: Akasuri is also known as "red scrub". More about akasuri here. You can scroll down to the bottom to read the explanation ;D)
Naturally a steam bath was not excluded. The method was done by filling the bathtub with hot water.

By the way, if you were to ask how the toilets are like here, they actually have clean, good old-fashioned toilets (the so called botton benjo).
(Rinkage: Botton Benjo is also called plop toilet *squat toilet* non flush lavatory)
There were no toilet papers available, but they have greenish yellow leaf as replacement and the texture was in no way inferior in terms of softness compared to the toilet papers.
The leaf's surface appears light when you brush against it so it feels gentle when you use it to wipe your ass and it has a nice smell too. (Rinkage: Just to clarify, it's not the smell of the ass)
On top of that, a complete set of amenities such as toothbrush (the brush portion was the hair of some kind of animal), comb and slippers were also provided in the room for the guests' complimentary usage.

To be honest, in terms of hotel's facilities, it does not lose out to the facilities provided by the hotels on earth. Above all, the meals were delicious.

So, I am currently in the bathroom.
The bathrooms were properly segregated by genders so once I entered it, I was able to monopolize the entire place and take my own sweet time.
Finally….I will be graduating from my virginity tonight……
In retrospect, I had a 21 year long dry life…… I did have a girlfriend before but it never last long in the end. After graduating high school, I joined the black company but that wasn't a place where I could find a girlfriend. Moreover, I became a NEET right after I quit the black company…….

…….For the time being, let's wash myself thoroughly…….

——A slight digression again but, soaps are not widely used here yet. When I first found out about it, I was hyped up thinking, "All right. It might be lucrative to sell soaps here! I'll be a billionaire!" but that idea was simply naive. Instead of soaps, the bathrooms and washrooms here have a huge number of peculiar tree branches as replacements.
The hollows of those strange branches were roughly around 1 centimetre in diameter and were clogged with high viscosity fluid. Once I pressed it hard, the

liquid content that flowed out has the same usage as cleaning substance.
A faint aroma of fresh verdure from the froth permeated the air when I used it to wash my body, making my mind and body felt strangely refreshed. To be frank, this thing is way better than soap. It is also versatile and can be used as a shampoo at the same time.
I might be too simple-minded when it comes to starting up a business in this other world. It would be easier if I were to sell these to the other side. (earth)

I stepped out from the bathroom and went back to my room after wiping my body. Once I changed my clothes, I went to the next room to invite the both of them to have dinner together in the dining room.
During our meal, Marina seemed to be eating quietly, behaving totally different than her typical self as she usually doesn't display a well-mannered etiquette during meal time. Is her face red because she just got out of the bath? On the contrary, Diana seemed to be unusually cheerful, coming up with various conversation topics. I wasn't sure if she is feeling desperate or something at all……
I wonder why did Diana say that she will be sleeping together with us too. I was quite concerned of her real motive behind this but it was hard for me to bring this topic up somehow….Oh well….what will be, will be…..

Thus, we went back to our own room after finishing our meal.

"Well then, we will be paying a visit later on, goshujin-sama." [Diana]
"W-We need to make preparations first, my liege." [Marina]

It seemed like they will be coming over to the room later.
Honestly, my heart felt as if it was going to explode.
Even though Diana appeared to be perfectly calm on the surface, Marina was obviously nervous.
Since the event has reached this point, I don't think they would mind even if I were to do as I like, as their master…….at least I think so……Aa, I should stop it. I am being long-winded again. As a 21-year-old virgin, this is the time for me to display my manliness!

“I’m sorry to have kept you waiting, goshujin-sama.” [Diana]

“……………………….” [Marina]

Before long, the two of them came to my room.

Diana, who was clad in a dressing gown with her platinum blonde hair that was usually tied in a knot released, still looked somehow regal. On the other hand, even though Marina was wearing the same dressing gown, she shrank back while looking at me with upturned eyes. She wasn’t able to utter out even a single word as she stood there squirming.
I wonder why Diana was being so brazen. Could she really be thinking of coming here just to sleep? I guess that must be because she is a princess after all. She might still be a nenne-chan.
(Rinkage : Nenne-chan [ネンネちゃん] = Someone who is innocent and oblivious to the world like a baby, especially to things like sex)
“Gehehe, this uncle here will personally teach and give you a step by step lesson”. In truth, I wished that she has reached at least that degree of indecency. Rather, if it was possible, I would like to be given a lesson on this due to my lack of experience….. Some kind of simulation or shadowing lesson would be almost perfect. Speaking of which, I have yet to confirm if both of them have experience, so there are possibilities that they were actually veterans in this….

…….Although, if it is possible, I want to be their first man. I wonder if it’s an egoism of a virgin….

But, I don’t think I should say “Let’s go to bed!” all of the sudden. It might not be an art of coaxing but should I start the conversation on our business here first? Let’s go with that.

“Oo, well just sit down. Do you all want something to drink? Aa Marina, could you serve the tea?” [Jirou]

“Y-Yeshh-!” [Marina]

She was strangely nervous that her reply became inarticulate as she stood up, looking all tensed. From how I see it, it is likely that she might end up spilling the hot water.

"All right. So it's about our plan for tomorrow. Since Jephthah-san has arranged for a replacement to meet us at the guild, we should head to the guild tomorrow before anything else. Thereupon, we can check out the state of the house after the meet. If it is possible, I would like to try secure a transportation to the house but I'm not sure if we should be depending on that person to that extent yet." [Jirou]

I put on a serious look and started talking. I tried changing the atmosphere and seized the initiative…..

"What should we do if Jephthah's representative hasn't made it here yet?" [Diana]

Seriously. This girl was behaving just as usual. She was sitting nonchalantly on the sofa while sipping the tea made by Marina.

"If that is the case, then I had thought of selling the goods I have in hand at the market. I'm not sure if we can just sell the goods without permission there so I will be going to the guild regardless to inquire on this first." [Jirou]

"What about securing the transportation?" [Diana]

"The distance between the house and Erishe will take roughly 1 to 2 hours walk by foot. It would be a hard work going back and forth to the city without a horse or something. I do not have any skill in horse riding so I have no choice but to learn it. Although, honestly I do want a horse at the very least. Come to think of it, do the two of you have the skill to ride one?" [Jirou]

"I have been living in the forest all this while so a horse is….." [Diana]

"Ma-Marina has never own a horse before…." [Marina]

So the two of them have zero experience too. I could buy a carriage and employ a coachman to solve this but I will be getting a horse first to get my small business running for the time being. I guess I have no choice but to try asking Rebecca-san to teach us all. Considering Marina's knight skill, she might be the first one to master it but, I kind of doubt it due to her thick-headed image.

"Then we should practice horse riding together. Do you think I should get Jephthah-san's representative to buy the horse for us, Diana? As I thought, I guess we shouldn't be replying on him that much." [Jirou]

“Wouldn’t it be fine? Regardless, the house of Solo will be the one to earn the most eventually.” [Diana]

Did he make that much profit?
By supporting the High Elf’s special guidance, the house of Solo would be obtaining some kind of cooperation from them. Is the reward that good? Well, if that was not the case then I don’t think he would be willing to pay for our stay at this inn too since that was quite a handsome amount of money…….

“…….I don’t know what will the house of Solo be getting at the end of this deal but I’ll just be getting as much as I possibly can then. To be frank, we are getting financially broke…….” [Jirou]

“…..Goshujin-sama, the reward item is something that they wanted by hook or by crook so it’s fine to be slightly unreasonable.” [Diana]

I became worried about the content of the reward, all of the sudden.
The reason being, he has easily bought me a slave (Marina) even though it cost him 40 gold coins. In addition, it cost him 3 silver coins per night for our lodgings each, so it would be about 1 gold coin for the three of us.
That could only mean that the reward is not just at the level of 100 gold coins. Even 1000 gold coins doesn’t sound too preposterous……By the way, if I were to convert it to our money, 1000 gold coins would be roughly 150 mil yen.

…..Nevertheless, even though 150 mil yen is a huge sum of money to me personally, it might be just a small change for those who excels in business trading. It seemed that the house of Solo is famous to the extent of being known by Rebecca-san too.
Then…..it wasn’t just at the level of 10 or 100 billion yen……. I wonder if it would be alright to selfishly ask for 30 mil yen for our portion.

“…..All right, I have decided. Let’s depend on the house of Solo to the end. I’m not sure how much we can get from them but let’s just do it to the degree whereby Jephthah does not make a sarcastic remark about this.” [Jirou]

“Goshujin-sama is indeed reliable. Among the High Elves, my guidance was considered to be something that hasn’t happened in a really long time so we ended up handing over a treasure that is beyond humans’ power. So, they will basically heed any of your wishes. At the very least, the item was *that* valuable to us.” [Diana]

A treasure that is beyond humans’ power…… Would it be alright to hand over something like that to a merchant? I don’t think there are be any treasures in existence on earth that might worth 10 billion, are there?

“Specifically, what did the High Elves give the house of Solo? What I meant was that treasure. Rather than ‘cooperating’ with them, did you hand over an item instead?” [Jirou]

On hearing that, there was a slight hesitation in her eyes for but, that was only for an instant. She seemed to have made up her mind after.

“……Will you promise to protect this secret?” [Diana]

“Ou, I will protect it, I will protect it.” [Jirou]

“….That was quite a light assurance…. Will Marina promise to never disclose this to others too? If you can’t, please cover your ears.” [Diana]

Marina covered her ears and closed her eyes at the same time. She didn’t seem to be particularly interested in this story.

“………Once I have achieved my guidance, we are supposed to hand over one of the High Elf race’s treasure, 『The Birth of the Morning Star (The Alchemy)』.” [Diana]

“The Birth of the Morning Star?” [Jirou]

“It was a treasure from the era of Spirit civilization but….. In short, 『It can change base metals to precious metals. In a word, it’s a gem that can turn it into gold』. The existence of this item is concealed for the time being so I hope that goshujin-sama can help keep this a secret.” [Diana]

“The possibility of changing something to gold….. Can it create an infinite number of gold? However, for a house that was already rich like the house of Solo, I don’t think that an item like this is that profitable to them.” [Jirou]

“Goshujin-sama is sharp. Just as you have guessed, changing base material to gold is not the only aspect of this treasure. To be more precise, the Birth of the Morning Star is basically, 『A gem that is able to create various items as long as the conditions for those items are met』. —For example, the conditions for creating gold are these three, 『the original source of metal, magic crystal and spirit power』. However, even with these three conditions met, it is really rare to be able to make one now. There were an abundant of magic crystals during the era of Spirit civilization but they are really valuable now.” [Diana]

Something that is able to create various items. That was a fairly simple explanation. However, changing base metal to precious metal is alchemy isn’t it? Isn’t that the case?

“Even though I understand that the requirements for the creations are generally 『source material』, 『energy crystal』 and 『technique user』……….I apologize. Back in our hometown, we did use it to make food occasionally but I did not properly examine the methods in using it much……Although, father seems to know of many different recipes…..” [Diana]

“I see–. But I wonder why did the house of Solo desires it. There must be a reason behind their attachment to this item.” [Jirou]

“After taking a look at the list taken out by father, they selected the Birth of the Morning Star instantly, so I think they should have a reason to this……” [Diana]

The Birth of the Morning Star. It sounds like an interesting treasure. Honestly, it seems wasteful to give this to the house of Solo. There wasn’t any fixed date as to when they should hand over the item so long as Diana hasn’t achieved her guidance but……I can’t do that.
Ah, but I wonder if I could play with it a little before giving it to them. I would like to pay a visit once to the High Elf’s hometown too. Ufufu, a place only full of elves. If it ended up becoming a super hustle, it wouldn’t be sufficient regardless of how many bodies I have……..
(Rinkage: Envisioning in getting snu snu by a group of elves)

Well, anyway I got a back-up plan for now and it seemed permissible even if I were to spend my money freely here. I don’t think I will be troubled about my life in this other world for the time being. It’s all thanks to Diana-sama.
I want to run my business using my own my money but, I need to take care of the livelihood here too. I will be using whatever that I can use.

“Then I will end the conversation here. Marina, it’s fine now.” [Jirou]

I called out to Marina who was covering her ears with her eyes shut. Well, I guess it's natural that she didn't hear me. I tapped her shoulder.

"MA RI NA! It's fine now!" [Jirou]

"Wahiyaa!! I-I-I-I-I-I-I-I am not fully prepared yet! Marina will not be able to do well for the first time….I will definitely do it poorly….." [Marina]

What on earth is this person saying all of the sudden! First, we should set the mood by drinking tea as we relaxed, then gradually suggest to them that we should be going to bed soon. After that, I will put out the lights. It's a step by step process…….That was supposed to be my initial plan! You're being too straight, Marina!

But, so it's her first time, huh…..That was truly a delightful news to me….

Your master is overcome with emotions. I'll forgive you!

"……………………………………"

Then, the room was somehow enveloped in silence.
A-Awkward……
Damn….how did it end up this way…… Someone please do something…..is what I wanted to say but, a guy should be the one to take the lead in a situation like this……
As I was thinking so, Marina spoke up.

"Ma-Marina will be going there first. P-Please pardon me and p-please be gentle to me." [Marina]

Saying so, Marina fled to the bed. The only ones left were Diana and I. Well, what to do now…..

"Goshujin-sama, what should we do now? I-I…..am mentally prepared for it already." [Diana]

"U-Un…..Then let's go there too……" [Jirou]

The light was put out and we headed to the bed in the room.

…………I felt as if my heart was about to leap out of my chest……. I was feeling too nervous that I felt slightly sick now……..

Upon entering the room, Marina could be seen shutting her eyes tightly as she lay down on the bed with both of her hands grasped together firmly. Her shoulders were trembling, possibly because she was feeling afraid or she wasn't able to sort out her feelings yet.

……….
…..Un….Somehow….
I guess she must have not wanted to do it……
It doesn't matter even if she is a slave! I would be a pure demon if I were to force her into it just because she is a slave…….

Well, it is true that I am at the age in which I really wanted to do it too but, I have already kept my virginity for 21 years anyway, so it's not really necessary to be impatient now. I guess we should wait for a little while longer…..till it develops to something important. Like love.
It was just the third day since I first met them…..so we are still like strangers to each other……..

"Marina. You don't need to be that tense. I will not do anything." [Jirou]

On hearing what I said, Marina slowly opened her eyelids. I could see confusion swirling in her eyes.

"I…..have fully prepared myself, my liege. So it's all right. I can do it properly." [Marina]

"………I just recalled it but, as I thought this thing isn't just about being mentally prepared. Someday….until Marina feels that you are not only prepared for this but you are also willing to permit it. I will be waiting until then." [Jirou]

"My liege……" [Marina]

"Diana too……You should keep and cherish it until that day comes." [Jirou]

I have decided….!

I am definitely not a hetare! I'm not a hetare!
This is sincerity!

Marina blinked her eyes in surprise. Since she’s a slave, she might think that it’s weird for someone to be thoughtful of her. Well……..the problem actually lies with my preference.
It’s such a waste when the meal is already set before my eyes! I want to love, to be loved and to be connected! Something like that.

Diana seemed to be convinced by it too. When I turned around, I found her smiling mysteriously.

“Goshujin-sama…..My feelings are not『ready』yet. It is necessary to prepare my heart but, I don’t think I need to be『ready』for it. So, we can sleep together after Marina returned to the room, if you want. T-This is destiny.” [Diana]

Unexpected. Diana seemed determined.
In the dim light, Diana’s silhouette seemed to emerge mysteriously in symmetrical. The rays from the moonlight shining in through the window, cast its luminescent white glow over her long platinum blonde hair that was extended to the waist. The tattoo didn’t really bother me much as she looked very attractive. In truth, I was on the verge of being overflowed with uncontrollable desire now but……why is she being so aggressive?

“But….just one thing. I want you to make a promise. Once we ended up in that relationship…..I would like goshujin-sama to swear your『everlasting love』to me. All right?” [Diana]

“…….O-O-Ouch, ouch ouch! I’m feeling too tense that my stomach hurts now! I’ll be going to the toilet. It will likely take a long time! You guys should go to sleep first. Ouch ouch.” [Jirou]

I escaped……….

Chapter 030 – The smell of oil tycoon from the early-morning attack

After leaving the room, I decided to settle down in the lounge. Sitting on the leather couch, I called a maid over for a glass of warm alcohol.
I sipped it lightly as I think.
I had ended up escaping but, that Diana……「everlasting love」, what on earth is her real intention.
I have just met her for 3 days…… No……that was just from my side of culture. It could possibly be something natural in the elves’ culture…….I think? However, conversely, if Diana intended for this then as I thought, do I really need to pledge an「everlasting love」to her?…… There was also the matter with regards to the spirits contract. If I were to make some kind of oath, I can’t deny that I was quite afraid of the outcome again…..

Judging from her state, she didn’t appear to be joking. Then, I guess she was fine even if we ended up in that kind of relationship…. I thought that it sounded slightly like a proposal too but…..was she aware of it herself that she is a slave now?……. Or could it possibly have something to do with her guidance? In the first place, what will she do after she achieved her guidance? She will be returning to her country after that so, what was the point of making an oath of everlasting love.

Could I be overthinking this? It’s just that, it seemed to be a likely cliche thing to happen before developing into such a relationship……… It could also be that I’m just a good-for-nothing coward (hetare)…… I ended up tiring myself out by overthinking it now……

There was also the matter with regards to Marina.

Honestly, it was undeniable that I was taking her advances with a light feeling. I was being rather noncommittal to the other party who was sincerely facing me and offering to serve me for life. After coming to the other world, I have always thought that this place felt really dream-like to me. However, was I treating the human relationship here the same way as well? I made the other party my slave,

in other words, her whole life's in my hand. Nevertheless, I had thought that I could always return to the other side (Japan) to escape, if I do run into any problems here. This thought was something that I wasn't able to completely refute at all.
If I demand for a person's sincerity, then it is natural for me to treat them the same way. 「It's fine even if I don't return to the other side (Japan)」. At the very least, if I don't have this kind of feeling, then I don't think I can cheat on my partner in a carefree way…………It might be something peculiar for a guy to have kept his virginity but, I'm not a frivolous person. As I thought, if there is no sincerity to a certain extent, then it's not worth being a virgin up till now.

"Aaaaa, was I faced with things related to slaves more than necessary?…….." [Jirou]

I ended up falling into distress myself.

"Isn't it fine? Slaves are also humans." [???]

"!" [Jirou]

I was not prepared for someone to reply when I was speaking to myself. Feeling surprised, I looked towards the source of the voice to find a woman who appeared to be a hotel guest unknowingly sitting diagonally opposite me.
I must have been too lost in my thoughts earlier. I had not expected someone to be using the lounge in the middle of the night so I didn't notice her presence at all.

"Please pardon my impoliteness. Since that remark was made in a place where no one else aside from me was around, I assumed that the question was directed to me." [???]

"Ah no. I was just thinking out loud. Hahaha….." [Jirou]

That was embarrassing. I could only laugh dryly.
I wasn't able to read the woman's expression well due to the dim light in the lounge but, she is wearing a long, black coloured one piece dress with white sleeve and collar, as well as a silver neckerchief around her neck. She must be a young lady from some rich family to be able to afford staying in a luxurious inn like this. Her elegant, silver wavy hair made her looked rather gorgeous.
I guess I might have not noticed it when she came just a while ago. Vapour could

be seen rising from the tea cup in her right hand as she lifted it up.

The woman returned the cup to the saucer.

“You seemed to be troubled by something related to slaves. It might be presumptuous of me but, you can consult me about it. That is, if you are fine with me.” [Silver haired lady]

Is she someone who likes giving people advice?……..
I would be happy if she could offer me her advice on this but, this wasn’t a problem that I could easily consult a woman………
「I just purchased two slaves recently. When I asked them to sleep in the same bed with me immediately, one of them said “I have fully prepared myself” while the other said, “Please swear your everlasting love to me.” It was too heavy for me to bear so I ended up running away here.」 As expected, I wouldn’t be able to tell her that.
But well, since she’s a young lady from a rich family, she could be accustomed to how slaves were usually treated. I’ll try telling her about it.

“Well, I just bought slaves for the first time the other day. But, I wasn’t able to familiarise myself with my own slaves. I don’t know what would be a good sense of distance when it comes to them…….” [Jirou]

“I see. Well…….basically, isn’t it fine to do as you please? Once you purchased them as slaves, they already belong to you. You can keep them by your side or drive them to some place far away. No one will be able to blame you for it or find a reason to do so too.” [Silver haired lady]

“Is it something like that? But, how is it usually done? Do slaves think that it’s normal for them to be treated that way by their master too?” [Jirou]

“Male slaves are kept alive or killed as they are forced into a lifetime labour. Female slaves are mostly treated as sex slaves and even after getting pregnant, they are treated as sex slaves again………..are those the answers that you were looking for? I will not deny that there are no such cases at all but…….the width is actually much wider than what you think.” [Silver haired lady]

“What do mean by the width is much wider than what I think?” [Jirou]

“There are some of them who ended up marrying their slaves and it’s also quite common for slaves to be given the number 2 important position in work too.” [Silver haired lady]

Ayase Jirou’s brain trial

“Ee~, this might be a sudden but I would like conduct the 755th brain trial now. The subject of the trial this time is 『Marriage to slaves! Is it something that is possible!?』”

“Guilty. Our parents will start grieving if we were to get married in an unknown world like this.”

“Guilty. Rather than wanting to get married, you just want to do it, don’t you? Isn’t it fine since they are just slaves? Go ahead and do them already.”

“Guilty. I just want to have the legitimacy of child making. I cannot help but say that this is just a self-aggrandizement on the pretence of goodwill.”

“Guilty. I would prefer it if the girls have bigger breasts.”

“But, just hear me out, guys. If you can think about someone sincerely and also consider the possible outcome, you’ll be able to tell if it is the appropriate thing to do. It’s already 1 am in the night now so those might just be the thoughts of my slightly drunk self. I should be able to understand what I ought to take into consideration by tomorrow. It’s only now! For now it’s not guilty!”

“Judgement. I’ll give it another thought once I calm down tomorrow! Otherwise, I’ll just wait till I go into the wise man mode!”

Brain trial end

“The treatment for slaves is dependant on individuality……If that’s the case then I’ll just try doing based on what I believe in. Thank you very much.” [Jirou]

But well, in the end the conclusion was still exactly the same as what I've always thought of, 「I should just act based on my own size」. It might be pleasant to find that it was considered as normal by most people in this world. Rebecca-san did say that it was something like a lifetime employment contract so that just might be it.

◇◆◆◆◇

After that, I ended up discussing about the inn's food with the silver-haired woman for a short while before parting. I returned to the room (that Diana and Marina weren't staying in) and went to bed. Things like how I got excited by the lingering scent on the bed…..were details that didn't need to be known.

The next day, Diana who woke me up with a flushed face, said to me immediately after I got up.

"Goshujin-sama, please forgive me for saying something strange all of the sudden last night. T-That was…*that* day came yesterday so I became a little strange. So, please excuse my absence for today." [Diana]

"Aa…,aaa. Is that so. I guess it can't be help if you became strange due to *that* day." [Jirou]

"N-No. Actually rather than being strange, I should say that I became honest or……..At any rate! I deeply apologize for it!" [Diana]

Then she ran out of the room with a beet red face.
Is this because of *that* day? Priestess-chan did say that an elf's sense of reason will become weaker but…….I wonder. Well, I was already informed of *that* day in advance so we'll just spend our day today without Diana. After all, we'll just be going to the guild to confirm if Jephthah's representative has arrived.

I woke up after and prepared myself before going to the next room to call Marina. Marina was….as expected she was still sleeping. If only Diana could've woken her up before leaving just now…….

Marina was sleeping soundly on the bed in a dressing gown.
Marina and I were the only ones in the room.
…….no, this is bad. It was Marina's fault for looking so defenceless in her sleep. It was also Diana's fault for leaving her in this state without waking her up. Your

master was not at fault.

“……..Morning~ It’s morning now~. Time for breakfast~ Then we’ll go to the guild~” [Jirou]
(Rinkage: He’s literally just whispering to her)

Marina didn’t get up even though I was waking her up softly.
Well well well. There’s no helping it at all. I’ll try shaking her shoulder slightly to wake her up.

yusa yusa
yusa yusa
Oops, my hand slipped. *puni*
puni puni muni muni
(Rinkage: You guys should know where his hand has ‘slipped’ to (*￣∀￣))

munyu…munyu munyu

“It….it doesn’t seem like she’s waking up, isn’t she? There’s really no helping it. Even though I am shaking her this much, she’s still not waking up.” [Jirou]

munyu muni munyo

“………it feels warm. It’s really healthy.” [Jirou]

munyumunimunyumunimunyu

“…..but, what a luxury…… My current soul level is certainly comparable to the soul level of an oil tycoon……” [Jirou]

munimunyomomyumomyu

………ah, this can’t do. I couldn’t control it well anymore. My hand and Marina’s breast were drawn together like magnets, both couldn’t be pull apart from each other at all. The feelings weren’t just at the degree of touching it lightly like a lucky lewd.

“Ahn…un….nn” [Marina]

A voice leaked out of Marina’s mouth. Her cheeks were flushed and sex appeal could be felt starting to emanate from her. This is bad. No, well it’s not bad but, I felt like going that far now even though it’s still early in the morning. It made me feel stupid for worrying endlessly about my good faith last night.

“Marina, if you don’t wake up soon, your master will seriously reach a point of no return. Or are you actually awake?” [Jirou]

“…….Ahn……………fuaa, aahn, aa……………………….a, re?” [Marina]

Ah, she woke up.
I retracted my hand immediately. It’s quite late for it now but, it’s unintentional.

“You finally woke up, Marina. Good morning.” [Jirou]

“E-eeeeh? My liege? G-good morning? Te–hiyaaaaaa, it’s embarrassing to be seen in my current appearance~!” [Marina]

Marina got off the bed by rolling to the other side and ran out of the room……..It appears that she really was sleeping. I felt relieved yet disappointed at the same time…..

For the time being, I should first change to my wise man mode while the sensation still lingered!

Chapter 031 – The smell of a HPFS suspension from the other world's carriage

Acting as if nothing had happened, I group up with Marina after that and took a light breakfast. It appeared that she really was sleeping when I was playing a prank on her this morning so there shouldn't be any problem. However, the incident last night has made it even more awkward or rather, embarrassing for me. I wasn't sure if my thoughts were evidenced through my conduct but, I had a feeling that Marina was behaving slightly strange too.
There were times when she looked as if she wanted to ask something from me but as soon as our eyes met, she suddenly turned bashful.

We ended up having an awkward moment of conversation as we finished our breakfast and went to the guild after.

The guild (to be more precise, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry) seemed to be crowded even though it was still morning. Taking into consideration that Erishe is the 2nd free city, it was not surprising to find a high number of people taking advantage of the flourishing trading markets here. A merchant-like man, an apprentice boy and a slave-like male escort could be seen wandering around the small lobby as well, making the entire place looks rowdy. Although, I think it wasn't that crowded the last time I came…….There must be a reason behind this.
That aside, I should finish my errand as soon as I can.

When I tried explaining my circumstances to one of the receptionist who appeared to be free, she requested me to wait for a while so I sank back into the crowds……That's the same pattern again, isn't it? The Toby summoning pattern.

My prediction was right on track as she really did go to Toby-shi in the end to explain it to him. After a short while, they returned together.

On seeing me, Toby-shi started scrutinizing me suspiciously again.
Well, I guess I couldn't blame him….. The first time I met him, I was trying to register as a merchant despite having memory loss. The second time I met him, I was requesting for the proof of ownership for a non-existent house. The third

time I met him (now), he was told that I was waiting for a representative from the Imperial Trader…….Now that I think about it, all my actions did seem suspicious.

“It’s been a long time, Jirou-kun. Despite registering yourself as a merchant in this guild for not even 3 rings (weeks), you are already acquainted with someone from Imperial Traders? Is the child behind you…….a slave? A Turk tribe slave might be relatively cheap but…..you are pretty influential, aren’t you?” [Toby]

One ring appears to be the same as Earth’s version of one week but they have 6 days in a week. So 3 rings are equivalent to 18 days. This is bean knowledge. (Rinkage: (これ豆な) Bean knowledge = bits of knowledge / trivia)

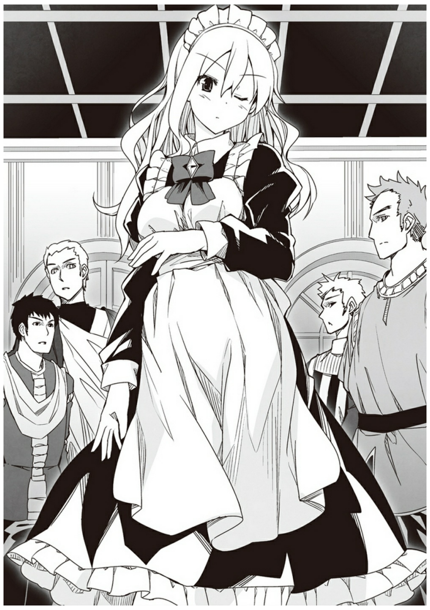
“Iya, how should I put it. It just ended up this way somehow.” [Jirou]

“It just ended up this way, is it?……. Well, I will just leave it at that but, you have told us earlier that you were waiting for Jephthah-shi’s representative from the house of Solo…..that is not a mistake, am I right?” [Toby]

“Yes. We have not decided on the date and time in detail so I wasn’t sure when he’ll be coming.” [Jirou]

“No, actually the person did show up once in the middle of last night. She said she will be returning again today so, before long…..ah it looks like she just came.” [Toby]

Saying so, Toby-shi signalled it with his eyes.
Let’s see….. Looking up towards the entrance, I saw a woman among the merchant-like group of people, entering in a stately manner.
Rather than a woman…..should I say a maid?……or rather, wasn’t she the silver haired woman whom I’ve met in the lounge last night?!



She was clad in the same black coloured one piece dress like yesterday but there were two points that were different. The first was the pure white apron and the second was the head dress. No matter how I look at it, this is definitely the maid look. I had initially thought that she was a young lady from some rich family but…….she's actually a maid……No, I like it. There are no men in existence who dislike maids.

However, the house of Solo……..or rather, what was Jephthah thinking?! What's the idea of sending a maid as his substitute?!
No, hold on. I should first calm down. I shouldn't casually determine someone to be a maid basing on my common sense just because she's dressed in 'maid clothing'. She might have forgotten to remove her apron after making breakfast this morning or, I couldn't deny the possibility that this could just be a type of fashion in this world too. That's right, that's right. That must be it. It wouldn't be possible for a maid to be a merchant's representative. This isn't some kind of moe manga!

The silver haired maid walked straight towards us. This person is indeed the representative without a doubt. Either Toby-shi has signalled it to her indirectly or that she was able to guess it immediately from the situation, she gave me an elegant bow.

"Nice meeting you for the first time…though it's not really our first time, isn't it? My name's Hetty and I'm here as Jephthah's representative. As you can see, I'm a maid. I might be unreliable as young master's representative but please treat me kindly." [Hetty]

This person has declared it herself that she's a maid!
Did Jephthah vaguely leave this task to just anyone around him? I don't think people normally send a maid on their behalf, do they? No, I might have been applying too much common sense in my thoughts again………. If I were to give this a deep thought, we're seriously defeated by this other world……..By the way, it was unexpected to hear Jephthah referred to as young master.

"…..Thank you for your help last night. I'm Ayase Jirou. Please treat me well from now on." [Jirou]

"The same with me, Jirou-sama." [Hetty]

Hetty flashed me an elegant smile as she replied. I guess she's slightly older than me. A maid with a refined beauty.
If I were to think about it carefully, rather than a proud spirited young merchant, or a pretentious womanizing man from the house of Solo, or a seriously homosexual guy, she might have been the best candidate in comparison. In fact, I was actually expecting someone like Jephthah number 2 to be sent over instead….
Jephthah, you asshole. You've done quite well this time, haven't you? You're someone who can really do it if you want to!

"By the way, where is Diana-sama today? Are you all not carrying this out together?" [Hetty]

"Aa, today seems to be….*that* day." [Jirou]

"I see. It is the proof that the guidance is progressing but……..Jirou-sama, have you done something?" [Hetty]

Eh? W-W-What do you mean by that? I have not done anything.
Although, I can't deny that I tried to do something. Is the something somehow related to *that* day?

"Come to think of it, you did say that you were troubled by your relationship with the slaves as well last night……. In other words, you were refused after you tried violating her by force so you were troubled by your relationship with your slaves…….something like that? This might be bad……This could develop into a critical racial issue. I'm not sure if Jirou-sama will be able to get out of this in one piece." [Hetty]

"Eeeeeee, it was a misunderstanding! It was seriously a misunderstanding so please stop associating those together!" [Jirou]

"I was just joking." [Hetty]

The silver haired maid declared it with a straight face. Don't make such a serious face when you're telling a joke!

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We left the guild after the short greeting.
Since I have met up with Jephthah's representative, I would like to confirm the state of my house and begin the repairs as soon as I can. I'm fine with living at the inn but as I thought, it still feels uncomfortable. The foundation of my business was to trade between the two worlds so it wouldn't be too good to stay too far from the place.

"……so anyway, can I take a look at the mansion for now? It is a little far though." [Jirou]

"Yes. I have heard of the details from young master. I have already prepared a carriage so let us depart." [Hetty]

After saying so, Hetty-san guided us all the way to the place where the carriage is. I wasn't sure how fast the carriage could go but it will definitely be more comfortable than travelling by foot. Aa, I would like to ask if she could buy me a horse but…….it might be better to ask this only when Diana is around.

The carriage that was prepared is pulled by a pair of dapple-grey horses. It was actually quite…….no it looked really luxurious. The carriage even comes with two coachmen. It wasn't the open-air carriage kind that I saw in the parade but rather, a wooden private room type…..in short, it was the so-called 'box-shaped horse-drawn carriage'.
(Rinkage: Something like this)

Upon closer observation, the wheel seemed to be made out of metal and elegant looking ornaments could be seen used in moderation as decorations for the black base. To be honest, this didn't seem likely to be the maid's taste but, I

wonder if Diana might possibly be the one affecting this.
From my perspective, it was something that is really fortunate to me since I could use it freely without reservations.

“Please get on. Judging from the average speed of this transportation, I think we should be able to reach there in roughly half yuruka.” [Hetty]

Yuruka is about one hour in Earth’s term. This is also bean knowledge.

The inside of the carriage was luxurious as well. The seats were covered by a layer of shiny leather, making it looks as comfortable as a sofa and the interior is also big enough for four adults to ride inside comfortably.

No matter how you look at it, this is a coach that is generally used by nobles instead of common people. The house of Solo is definitely loaded, to be able to own something like this. To be frank, a normal covered wagon that can be used for loading goods would be sufficient for me.

Since I was the first one to get up into the carriage, I took my time confirming the texture of the seat and the flooring of the carriage by tapping it as I waited. However, no one got in after me, even after some time. When I looked outside, I could see Marina standing outside rigidly while Hetty-san was standing motionless on the side.

“…..Um, what are you doing? Marina too. Did something happen?” [Jirou]

“Aa, it’s nothing. I was just waiting for Marina-san since she doesn’t seem to be boarding the carriage even after some time……….Ano?” [Hetty]

“Marina. Did something happen? Are you the type to get motion sickness easily? Sorry but you have no choice but to try enduring it. Now come on. Get in, get in.” [Jirou]

On hearing what I said, Marina finally opened her mouth after showing a brief moment of hesitation.

“……..Marina is a slave. I have heard that the master of a house will be laughed at by the public if they are seen sitting on the same seat as their slaves in public places. Ma-Marina doesn’t like it……if my liege were to be laughed at by people.” [Marina]

Otto~
That was quite a cute thing she just said. Although, that was quite foolish of her to be worrying about something like that.
S-Since it will have the opposite effect on a guy instead!

“Then what will Marina be doing? So you’ll be remaining here? Letting your master leave to someplace by himself to boot?” [Jirou]

“…………Marina will be chasing after by foot.” [Marina]

“I see. But that request is denied.” [Jirou]

My persuasion…..didn’t go through but I got down the carriage normally, grabbed Marina’s hand and pulled her inside by force. I was initially expecting her to be putting up slight resistance but, she was surprisingly docile. It would look really cool here if I could hold and carry her to her seat however, I do not have enough strength to do so.

“In the end, I am forced to get up as well. I’m a slave after all so, it’s my destiny in which I will not be able to go against my liege.” [Marina]

Despite saying that, Marina didn’t seem to be vexed at all. On the contrary, she looked happy about it. As I thought, she’s a foolish child.

“Yes yes. I want to ride in this carriage with Marina together so the earlier request will definitely not be accepted no matter what.” [Jirou]

“Oh my. Jirou-sama’s love to slaves is strong, isn’t it? It’s not really the continuation to the conversation we had last night but, it’s actually not a rare case to find masters who make their slaves run after the carriage.” [Hetty]

Were there really people who make their slaves run like that?……….The carriage has started moving now but, it is actually gaining more speed than I thought. I think the speed is roughly the same as the speed of a bike. Well, going after this by foot is considerably hard or rather, it’s really harsh to make them run after the carriage. It’s a different story if someone were to do it for the sake of training though.
If it so happens that they encountered thugs or demons on their way, wouldn’t they become too tired to accomplish their tasks at the end of the day? It’s seriously inefficient.

“It’s Marina’s first time riding something like a carriage. There were only carts back in Marina’s village.” [Marina]

“This is my first time riding a carriage too. It doesn’t shake as much as I expected. I’ll need to examine the mechanism used for this carriage later on…….The suspension must be really good despite the wheels. In the first place, does spring exists here?…….” [Jirou]

“Jirou-sama seems to have deep insight. Just as what you have said, we use the spring bear’s tendon for this carriage. We need at least 20 spring bear’s tendon just for one carriage so this carriage is actually quite a high-end item.” [Hetty]
(Rinkage: They are talking about springs yet they are not referring to the same spring xD)

“Haha, spring bear is it? That’s really something.” [Jirou]

“Marina have seen spring bear coming out from time to time nearby Marina’s village last time too. If it is found by any human, byon! Byon! It will run away.” [Marina]

“What the heck? Is that supposed to be its cry? So is byon the sound of its cry?” [Jirou]

“Byon! Byon! It jumps up and down on the rocky areas of the river. It looks cute when it slips and falls into the river at times. And the sound of its cry is 『Banebanebanee』. 『Banebanebane』.” [Marina]

Marina was making gestures with her hands as she explained. She was even mimicking its cry.
(Rinkage: Spring is meant to be “bane” in Japanese so the bear’s name is actually “Bane Kuma” (Spring Bear). But I think “springspringspring” sounds really strange in comparison to “banebanebane”. Although if you guys want me to change it to “springspringspring” then I can do that too or let me know which you prefer x3)

They named it “Spring (Bane) Bear” since their cries sounded like “Banebane”? The other world is seriously something.

While having such conversation, I gazed out at the sceneries outside. Before I knew it, we finally arrived at the forest’s entrance to the residence. I have not timed it accurately but it should be roughly 40 minutes. If a carriage took 40 minutes to reach here then, it will likely to take around 30 minutes to travel just by horse.

I got down from the carriage and guided Hetty-san to the place. Come to think of it, it was the first time for Marina too. It would be good if she likes it since this place will be her house too.

"…….it looks like a splendid looking mansion but, it seems to be deserted for a long time. This might be more troublesome than I thought. Could I take a look at the inside?" [Hetty]

"Yes of course. What's your opinion of this place, Marina?" [Jirou]

"It's a huge and amazing mansion. It seems to be slightly overgrown with weeds though. When will we start living here, my liege? Tomorrow?" [Marina]

"No no no. We still need to repair and maintain it before we can move in. I don't know how long it will take though….." [Jirou]

"Judging from the current state, it might take about 2 moons. Houses that have not been occupied for a long time will definitely have various places that are either broken or need constant maintenance." [Hetty]

1 moon here is similar to Earth's one month and there are about 20 days in 1 moon. This is bean knowledge.

We entered the mansion.
Aa, first of all, I have to keep the room with the mirror off-limits to her.
The person I was referring to was Hetty-san since I have intended to confide it to Marina soon anyway.

"Aa, it doesn't seem to be that damaged surprisingly. If that is the case, I think we might be able to get everything done in just moon. The outside of the mansion itself might be more of a problem though." [Hetty]

Outside. In other words, it was pertaining to the entire stretch of overgrown weeds and brush. Certainly, I had wanted to maintain the path outside the mansion too but it will likely be time consuming and we would need more people and money for this as well.

“Marina thinks that this place is fine to be lived in as it is. The house that Marina has stayed in before is incomparable to this mansion. There are still furniture remaining inside and it doesn’t seem likely that the roof will leak once it rains.” [Marina]

“I see. But no.” [Jirou]

The reconstruction of the mansion is arranged today so they will begin working on it tomorrow at the earliest. I have free time in my hand anyway so I’ll just come again to take a look at it once the project starts.
However, I need to install a lock first on the room with the mirror…….Actually, that should be the top priority.

Chapter 032 – The smell of carnivorous women coming from the female mercenary

I got Hetty-san to return to the city by herself while Marina and I remained at the mansion. We made a promise to meet up at the inn tomorrow morning for the time being so it should be good for today. There were things that needed to be done here as well.

In any case, I need to first fix a lock on the door to the room with the mirror before the renovation starts. However, that door is the inside bolt type…….in other words, it can only be locked from the inside. It would be fine if I went back to the other side but, if I don't properly lock it too when I come here………it wouldn't even be a joke if my family and the other world people ended up meeting each other with, 'konyanyachiwa'. [1]

I asked Marina to wait in the room temporarily while I returned to the other side to fetch the gift that I have forgotten to pass to Shello-san. The gift was intended to be an expression of gratitude for all the help he had given me during the match with Jephthah. I had already given Rebecca-san the garnet ring the other day but I have not given anything to Shello-san yet so I decided on alcohol again. I have chosen and bought a Japanese rice wine (sake) this time for him. If I go over to Shello-san's house on the pretext of handing this to him and leave Marina in their custody at the same time, I might be able to work on my things on the other side for at least half day.

For that reason, I should bring Marina over there quickly with the sake that I brought back from the other side. It took us around 20 minutes by foot to reach Shello-san's house from the mansion. It would actually take only a few minutes if we have a horse. Even though the house was deep in the forest, it felt reassuring to have someone we knew as our neighbour.

Rebecca-san was coincidentally drying her laundry outside when we reached there. Her attire has gone back to her usual casual wear, different than her dress-up appearance the other day. On noticing us trotting towards her, she waved her hand at us. Her previous look is fine too but, I think a boy would be healed more by her plain oneesan appearance instead.

“What’s wrong today? Did you suddenly miss me?” [Rebecca]

“Of course that is one of them too but, I have yet to give Shello-san his gift as my thanks for helping me out the other day.” [Jirou]

“Ara, there’s no need to be that considerate of us actually. He’s out hunting at the moment so I think he should be back after a while. Do you want to wait inside? By the way, where’s the other slave-chan today?” [Rebecca]

“It’s the elf’s that day for Diana today so she had to leave for a bit. Also, I have to go back to the house for a while because I have something that I need to attend to, hence…….could I leave Marina here until I return?” [Jirou]

“I don’t mind it but….are you sure? You bought that child as your guard, am I right? So, would it be fine not to bring her along?” [Rebecca]

“The house is just close by and, Marina is not capable of guarding me yet now……..Ah that’s right. I have thought of asking Shello-san and Rebecca-san to teach us how to fight soon so, would be all right for you?” [Jirou]

“Eh? Sure but, I’ll be strict.” [Rebecca]

I might get discouraged if the training becomes too severe but, my life’s at stake. I wasn’t sure how much the vocation, swordsman might affect the result but I would like to start training even just a little. Although, I haven’t got myself even a weapon yet.

I entrusted the sake to Marina for now and went back to the mansion. I would need to return here before dark so time is of the essence. Considering that I need to greet Shello-san and pick up Marina this time…..it would be safer to come back in about 2 and a half hours……

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I confirmed the payment through internet banking for the successful bids the other day. Fortunately, all the payments were received so all that was left to do was just to ship the items out.

Overall I was happy with the money received since I did spend a considerable amount of money in the match against Jephthah. My livelihood aside, I have also

bought slaves now so I have no other options than to earn more money from the net auction on a regular basis. I was also making plans to live by myself eventually……
That said, well, I'll start this and that after the New Year since it's a hassle to ship items out or confirm the payment during that time.

I loaded the items into the car and left the house. After posting the items out at the post office, I went straight to the DIY store.

Although I was able to vaguely visualize how the lock looks like in order to get the right fitting key for the room with the mirror, something like that is naturally not sold here. I wound up buying thick screws, latch and the biggest padlock I could find in the store. Honestly, this still looks delicate to me but, it was better than nothing for now.

Additionally, I went around the neighbourhood to several houses for the sake of purchasing things that will likely sell well in the other world's flea market before returning to the house. The next would be the installation of the lock.

Taking out the tools from the storeroom, I went back to the room with the mirror for the installation.
Fortunately the door's frame was made out of wood so the lock could be installed easily onto it. Well, this was good enough for the time being.

Seeing that I have yet to inspect this place thoroughly due to time constraints the other day, I took my time exploring the inside of the mansion after that.
If we will be living here soon, then it was something that I need to do. A life brain simulation. The mansion's breadth is roughly 3LDK. One of the room is approximately 12 tatami mats in size while the other two rooms are about 8 tatami mats in size. There are another two smaller rooms but they are probably storerooms.
I wonder what I should do about the room assignments. If I were to assign a room to each of us, then the 12 tatami mats room would be mine while Diana and Marina would each have the 8 tatami mats room. Although, since I could go back to my room in Japan anytime instantly, do I actually need one for myself? On the other hand, I could just use one of the 8 tatami mats room, leaving the bigger room for Diana and Marina instead. If that is the case then it wouldn't be a bad idea to make the remaining room into a guest room.

The living room is probably about 15 tatami mats in size. In fact, the space looks really spacious with only a large table and a flower stand here. The flooring seemed to be made out of beautiful precious wood. There is a small fireplace here too so it would likely be a nice place to relax once I place a sofa there. Let’s buy it the next time.

The most conspicuous thing to the eyes in the dining, or rather the kitchen was the stone oven. It was the typical type that you usually see used to make pizza or found in bakeries. It might taste really good if I were to use it to make pizza. Just the thought of it made me salivate.

The stone bath boiled by firewood in the bathroom is also quite huge, probably about 4 tatami mats in size. In addition to the botton benjo (it seems to be made out of metal, similar to a Western Style toilet, though without lid), there is also a well and stable outside the mansion. Although, the well and barn appear to be half-rotten.

Next will be the room with the mirror. Well, I could probably use this place as my own personal storeroom. There is nothing else apart from the mirror in this room so it might be a good idea to stash wine here.

The last place that I have yet to confirm would be the attic. Nonetheless I’m pushed for time now so let’s do it tomorrow. Argh, or once the contractors come tomorrow, I’ll just check from behind since it is really dusty.

Upon returning to Shello-san’s house after finishing my errand, I found Rebecca-san teaching Marina the methods of horse-riding. I wonder if Marina has requested for Rebecca-san’s help since her vocation’s a knight. I should ask her to teach me too the next time.

Marina didn’t seem to have noticed that I came back, appearing to be really concentrated. She might not have the skill to make the horse run yet but she was able to ride it alone as it walked.

Her boobs bounced when the horse walked.

Her boobs will bounce when the horse walks.

………I’ll keep observing her just like this.

After a few minutes, I called out to her when she took a break.

“Good job, Marina. You’ve done pretty well. At this rate, Marina might be able to teach me soon as well.” [Jirou]

“Ah my liege. Welcome back. Since Taichou-dono said she will be showing me the ropes, I am learning horse-riding from her. Riding a horse is really fun!” [Marina]
(Rinkage: Taichou = Captain)

Is that so. I’m glad.
By the way, did she just say Taichou-dono? Was she referring to Rebecca-san? Did she used to be called that?

“We were staying in the same room at the inn the other day, weren’t we? We had various kinds of 『talk』 at that time. But for some reason she ended up calling me Taichou since then.” [Rebecca]

「Talk」 was it?……….A really scary image somehow came to my mind on hearing that word but, that was probably just my imagination.

After thanking Rebecca-san for teaching Marina horse-riding, I received the sake back from Marina and hand it to Shello-san who has returned as appreciation for the help the other day.
“It’s alcohol!” As expected, Shello-san appeared to be dancing with joy as soon as he received the sake. This person is seriously a drinker.
Now then, it’s high time for me to go back since I have completed all my errands here.

“Rebecca-san, I would like to take my time slowly here but, it might be bad if we don’t return to the inn before it gets dark so we shall be leaving soon. Thank you very much for looking after Marina today.” [Jirou]

“Ara, you’re going back so soon? It’s fine even if you stay over.” [Rebecca]

It’s a really attractive suggestion but, Diana should have returned to the inn by now and I will be meeting up with Jephthah’s representative there tomorrow morning as well so I have to go back by today….. I will be dropping by here again the day after tomorrow.” [Jirou]

“Is that so—Then maybe I’ll come along with you–” [Rebecca]

“Eh? Eeeeh?” [Jirou]

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Thus, the three of us wound up going back to the inn happily. How did it come to this?

"I'll be going off." Even though Rebecca-san casually said that before leaving, Shello-san just saw us off with his usual smile. Is this all right? Is this considered common by the other world's standard?

I shouldn't think too much about it…..I am sure what we are doing is similar to going out for a drink with friends…….Well, in actual fact we did have dinner together before…..

Diana appeared to have returned to the room. She bowed at me, thanking me for today. Even though her face was beet red this morning, she looked normal now. I didn't really understand it but I guessed she must have refreshed herself.

After that, we took dinner together, had a drink and went back to sleep in separate rooms. Erotic events will be postponed until the renovation of the mansion is done-nya.

When we came down to the lobby the next morning, we found Hetty-san already sitting in the lounge, sipping a cup of tea. Has she been waiting there for a long time? She could've just called us when she arrived.

"Good morning Hetty-san. I'm sorry to have kept you waiting." [Jirou]

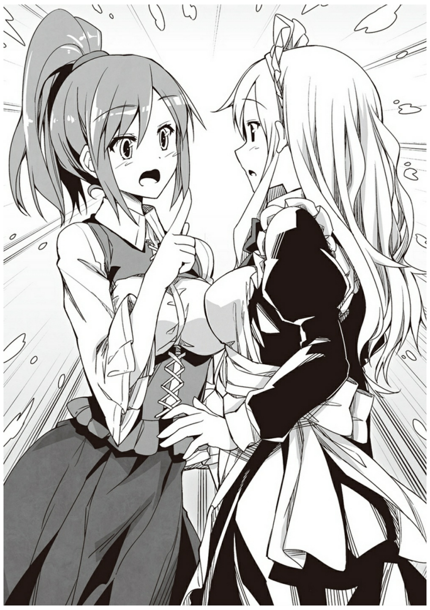
"Good morning Jirou-san. I actually just came not long ago." [Hetty]

Hetty-san stood up and greeted us gracefully. Despite being dressed in maid clothing, the same as yesterday, she didn't really exude the elegance of a servant.

Come to think of it, this should be Diana and Rebecca-san's first time meeting her. I had thought of introducing them to her so I turned to the back. However Rebecca-san, whose interest was likely piqued by the appearance of Hetty-san, made her move first.

"Nice meeting you for the first time. I am Rebe……….eh? Hetty?" [Rebecca]

"Ara. Ara ara ara. Aren't you Becky? So you're still alive. I was certain that you had…" [Hetty]



“That’s my line!! To begin with, how did someone like you who has been referred to as Farley’s Battle Maiden become a maid!?” [Rebecca]

“It’s…how should I put it,……..it was a change of job.” [Hetty]

“Even if someone were to place all three of Hetty’s vocation side by side, they are all still combat related so how is it possible for you to be a maid!? You would end up breaking all the dishes that you washed, wouldn’t you?” [Rebecca]

“That was impolite of you. Even without the vocations, I will be able to handle them as long as I am given a proper training. If this is the case then the same goes for Becky too………..Becky, I did not expect to meet you at a place like this but, what are you doing currently?……………Although, I have heard of the things about Isaac through the grapevine…..” [Hetty]

“……….I’m no longer working as a mercenary. The group broke up after leader died. I’m currently earning the living here by exterminating monsters.” [Rebecca]

“By yourself? It was regretful to have heard what happened to leader but, you’re still young.” [Hetty]

“Stop, Hetty. Besides, we’re in the same boat.” [Rebecca]

“………….Fuun. Well, I will not pry into it.” [Hetty]

After saying so, both of them looked at me.
My brain wasn’t able to keep up with the sudden development but, I guess they were acquaintance during their mercenary days. They seem to be getting along with each other though. I wonder if they are friends.
Rather, Hetty-san’s a battle maiden?…..I am really curious about her past job

now…..

“Both of you are acquainted then? There might be plenty of things for you guys to catch up on so how about continuing it tonight? We’ll have a drink.” [Jirou]

Seriously am I an ossan?…..
But I was intrigued by the story about the times when Rebecca-san was still a mercenary and Hetty-san’s past piqued my interest too.

“Acquaintance….was it. Certainly you might consider it similar to knowing each other quite well I guess. Well, it wouldn’t be too bad to talk about the past sometimes.”

“Talk about the past……even though there’s not much things about the past that we can talk about.”

Somehow it didn’t look like they were against it so let’s make an arrangement to have dinner together. Although it would be fine to have our meal later at the inn, I asked Hetty-san to guide us to a recommended restaurant instead.

“”Nice meeting you for the first time.””
Hetty-san greeted Diana after that. However, it appears to be their first time meeting each other as well. I had initially expected them to know each other by sight but, that didn’t seem to be it.
Well, I guess something like this was possible too.

Rinkage’s Footnote

1. ‘konyanyachiwa’ (コニャニャチワ) is a coined phrase from Tensai Bakabon, a gag manga & anime by Fujio Akatsuka)

Chapter 033 – The smell of the hairdressing products from the other world’s flea market

The maintenance team that Hetty-san organized was a large unit that consisted of 30 people in total. Riding in Hetty-san’s black horse-drawn carriage, the entire big unit headed off to the mansion. What the heck is this!? Is the house of Solo’s financial power something equivalent to a monster?!
They did not have heavy machineries or anything similar here so how could it possible for them to get it done in a month time? That was what I thought but, it should be feasible with this number of people I guess…..

After some time, the maintenance team managed to arrive at the mansion safely, despite surprising the group of villagers who were farming during their journey. Come to think of it, this should be Diana’s first time coming to this place.
Should I guide her around the mansion once before the maintenance starts?

“Goshujin-sama, is there a mansion in the inner part of the forest? This forest seems to be deeper that I thought. Although, it is something that I am glad about.” [Diana]

“Well there is a reason to this but, I’ll be happy if you like it.” [Jirou]

Thus we proceeded on.
After a short while, Diana who was following suddenly halted.

“……? This feeling is…..” [Diana]

“What’s up? Why did you stop all of the sudden.” [Jirou]

“I don’t really have much confidence in this but…..I detected the presence of a skilfully concealed spirit magic. This might possibly be…….a barrier.” [Diana]

“A barrier, is it?” [Jirou]

A barrier is something like that, isn’t it? It is a wall of defence or something that was often seen appearing in manga or games. I wonder if it was related to the reason why no one has found out about the existence of the mansion here.

“What happens if there is a barrier? In the first place, what is a barrier?” [Jirou]

“……..I do not really understand it too but, there doesn’t seem to be a wall here in actual and, it’s probably not some kind of spell that makes one unconsciously retrace their steps too……” [Diana]

Hmm…..?
It appears that everyone was going in and out as usual though.

“So is this barrier still in effect?” [Jirou]

“Yes. It should still be functioning, goshujin-sama.” [Diana]

Myself aside since I came from the inside, it appears that Rebecca-san, Shello-san, Marina and Hetty-san were able to go in and out normally. I wonder if it was possible when they were with me because I knew the way. Shello-san didn’t seem to be aware of the existence of the road to the mansion too.
In other words,…..it could be because I was guiding them or there could be other conditions that that needed to be fulfilled first……Well, I should be able to verify it eventually. At any rate, I didn’t even know why a barrier was erected from the beginning. Was it done by the former residence of the mansion?

Thus we reached the mansion by foot as is. It would be good if Diana likes it.

“Goshujin-sama, it’s wonderful. This place is filled with just as much spirit power as the elf’s hometown. Even the places that Priestess has informed me are much inferior in comparison to this place.” [Diana]

Rather than the mansion, she seems to have preferred the place itself. It must be pertaining to the story about how they require a place with dense spirit power to take their own pace so they can recover their spirit magic.
Wait, in other words, *that* day wouldn’t come anymore!? I felt lonely now as your master.
While I was groaning there by myself, feeling depressed that her mating season wouldn’t come anymore, Hetty-san called out from behind.

“Jirou-sama, will it be alright now? Let us start with the maintenance of the mansion today. First of all, we would be developing the lane to the entrance, then the maintenance of the garden. The repairs of the mansion and other secondary facilities is scheduled to be the last.” [Hetty]

“Ah yes. I’ll be counting on you.” [Jirou]

Well, that’s true. Presently, we could barely bring in just one horse and there was no place available to park the carriage. It might be a good idea to work on the path first.

“Goshujin-sama, how do you intend to develop the path and work on the maintenance of the garden? Could it be that you’re planning to cut down the trees?” [Diana]

I wonder if it’s NG to cut down the trees to the elves. (NG = No good)

“If that is the case then you don’t need to go all the way to cut them down actually. All I need to do is just to move them away and it’ll be settled.” [Diana]

“Move them?” [Jirou]

“I’ll move the trees to another location. Even though I’m still in the midst of the guidance, I can still use this degree of spirit magic.” [Diana]

O-Oh. I see….
I have never thought of that actually. I see. We could also move the trees here to another place……

Thus, I consulted Hetty-san about this, and decided to leave the task of moving the excessive trees away to Diana using her spirit magic.
It sounded like an amazing magic in my opinion. However, according to Diana, it was not at the standard to be classified as magic to the high elves. Apparently, it was just『requesting』the plants to move through the spirits…..
I wonder how capable would she be once she is able to use her spirit magic again after the guidance ends……… I’m looking forward to it and yet I am afraid of finding out at the same time.

As she chanted some kind of incantation, a pale pink light enveloped Diana’s whole body. In that present state, she then touched the tree that she wanted to move…….

……Hahaha, what’s this?
The tree uprooted itself from the earth and crept away using its roots as legs, slowly moving and disappeared into the depth of the woods. It’s so fantasy.
No, it’s an unbelievable spirit magic waa.

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“Thanks to Diana-sama, we managed to get 10 days’ worth of work done. Thank you very much.” [Hetty]

After that, within an hour time, Diana has cleared all the obstructive trees off by walking around and touching each of them. We ensured the lane’s width to be at least 4m wide so the carriage has sufficient room to go through and the surrounding of the mansion has become neat and tidy.
There are no concrete or asphalt here, nor do they use stone paving. Just levelling the ground for the lane and preparing the soil for the garden here would be adequate.
It wouldn’t be a bad idea to make the excessive land into a vegetable plot too since I have always longed for a home vegetable garden.

After showing Diana around the interior of the mansion for a while, we left the construction work itself to Hetty-san and returned to the city.

That’s because, it’s flea market day today! It’s a one-day opportunity in the 10 days so I will definitely not miss it.
I have locked up the room with the mirror, informing Hetty-san at the same time that the room is totally off-limits. As I thought even they wouldn’t break the lock and enter the room by force……….rather than believing that they wouldn’t, I guess it won’t happen.
…..Well, at the least it didn’t seem like they would be renovating the interior of the mansion today so it should be all right.
Including the inspection of the attic, let’s just check them out again tomorrow.

“Then we’ll be borrowing it.” [Rebecca]

After those words, the four of us, Diana, Marina, Rebecca-san and I got into the horse-drawn carriage and returned to Erishe.

Erishe’s flea market that is carried out once in the 10 days would take place at the central square. Once we got the guild to issue the permit, we would able to open up a stall in the market. Nevertheless, even though this was the second big flea market carried out this year, it appears that almost everyone in the city has flocked to the venue where it was held. Judging from the scale, it wouldn’t be surprising even if all the locals were here. Well, this seems to be carried out for several days so I guess it's something like a festival. The people here must be crazy about festivals.

The huge variety of items sold in auction previously, were also purchased from this flea market. There were a huge myriad of goods placed for sale here that I don't think I could ever get tired from just browsing through.
The things sold were fundamentally second-hand items but, there were also products that were hand-made by the local citizens among them. Since they were made by those with vocations related to crafting, the qualities are not to be made light of.

This time, I have brought over a huge load of items in my travel luggage from the other side (Japan), with the intention of selling them and getting the responses of the buyers. Thereupon, I could tell which items would be more profitable from the response then focus in those specific goods with the aim to gradually build a foothold in Erishe.

In truth, I had thought that it might be a good idea to bring in tobacco pipes that are usually used by millionaires from the other side, sell them to the nobles here then become wealthy instantly. However, something like this appears to be troublesome in its own way……… I have all the time I want here so, let's do it a little bit at a time.

Upon arriving, I headed to the location indicated by the number in the permit. Since I have already received the authorization from the guild beforehand, all I need to do was just to start selling. The place that they have assigned for me didn't seem to be located in an inconspicuous spot so while I wasn't sure how the outcome might be, I don't think that it's a bad location all in all. If it's here then the things might sell well to a certain degree. Probably.

The flea market event has actually started for some time so the hustle and bustle of crowds could already be seen here. It would be good if these things sell but, I need to purchase more items from the market to be sold online in auctions too. It's a busy day!

The merchandises were then lined up on the spread out sheet on the stone pavement.
Diana, Marina and Rebecca-san's interest appeared to be greatly piqued as they

looked through the various articles for the first time. Well, I guess most of the items here were things that they haven’t seen much before. I have brought over things that were rarely seen in this world, just in case. Not intending to miss putting prudence into practice, the items with packaging were first removed before putting them on display.

After displaying all the goods, I consulted the prices with Marina and Rebecca-san first before making the final decision. Diana was excluded since she’s ignorant about the ways of the world here.
The three of them went along with me without asking me all those needless questions such as how I got the items or when did I purchase them. Although, Rebecca-san was originally someone who will not pry into this. I wonder if I should reveal the secret about the mansion tomorrow, as soon.

Hence, even though I found out that the prices were considerably different than what I had initially thought, I eventually finished pricing all the displayed products. Business start!

1 Silver coin = 100 El
1 White Copper coin = 10 El
1 Bronze coin = 1 El

“How much is this glove?” [customer]
“That will be 1 El.” [Jirou]
“Seriously!? I’ll buy them all.” [customer]

“Ou, kid. Aren’t clean papers really expensive? How much are you selling one sheet for?” [customer]
“I’ll sell the whole bundle for 100 El.” [Jirou]
“100!? One bundle has 30 sheets so is that fine?” [customer]
“It’s fine. There’s no problem at all.” [Jirou]

“Oniichan~ What about this?” [customer]
“That’s called a bamboo-copter. Here’s how it, go!” [Jirou]
“Wah! Amazing! It flew it flew! It’s interesting!” [customer]
“Isn’t it, isn’t it? I’ll sell this to you for a special price of 1 bronze coin.” [Jirou]

“This looks like a nice knitting yarn. How much for one ball of yarn?” [customer]

“Let’s see, this ball of yarn cost 10 El while this one is 30 El.” [Jirou]
“Eh? Will it be all right for such a good price?” [customer]
“Yes. This is a flea market so I’m still studying the prices now.” [Jirou]
“Is that so. Then I’ll buy them all.” [customer]

“What a beautiful stone. It doesn’t seem to be a spirit stone though…….What is this?” [customer]
“That is a glass bead.” [Jirou]
“Eh…..That’s my first time hearing it……” [customer]
“Once you string the beads together, you can make it into a lovely accessory. I’ll be selling them specially for 5 El each today.” [Jirou]
“It’s cheap. Then I’ll have this…….this and this.” [customer]

“Ou. Those look like fine plates and they are even in a set.” [customer]
“I can sell them individually too if you like. Feel free to have a look at it first.” [Jirou]
“Oo…… The surface doesn’t seem to be uneven and the workmanship is intricate. Aren’t these new too?” [customer]
“Yes. They’re new porcelain plates. Why don’t you give in and buy them as presents for your wife? One will be 50 El but if you buy all 5 in a set, it’ll just be 200 El.” [Jirou]
“Is that the price for a porcelain article? That’s a lie, isn’t it? Just kidding. Of course I’ll buy them. Thank you, niichan.” [customer]

“How much for this hammer?” [customer]
“Just one white copper coin will be fine.” [Jirou]

“How much for these bundle of screws?” [customer]
“Just one white copper coin will be fine.” [Jirou]

“How much will it be for this pen and ink?” [customer]
“It’ll be 1 silver coin for all of them.” [Jirou]

“Oniichan, all your items seem to be amazingly in demand since a while ago. They are almost sold out now….. This doesn’t seem to be sold yet. Hmm? What’s this?” [customer]
“That is…….put a small dose of it onto your hand and apply it to your hair. Just like this.” [Jirou]

"Oo, ooo, is this Lyla grease?" [customer]
"Lyla? No, that's……a gel that's exclusively used to hold your hair and maintain them." [Jirou]
"Hou, it seems pretty good. Even grease doesn't harden like this. Ou, how much is this?" [customer]
"The whole can will be 30 El. How about it?" [Jirou]
"Fumu~ It's quite high but…..I'll try getting it as a souvenir!" [customer]
"Thank you for your patronage!" [Jirou]

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A little past noon, whoa! I'm sold out of everything! Thank you for all the purchases!

Considering that this was the first time, the prices set were quite generous but, they're amazingly in demand. I was actually expecting certain items to remain unsold. If this was the case then, it might be feasible to stock those items up in large quantity and sell them for profit too.

All the items sold today were mostly bought in hardware store and 100 yen shop. Granted that 1 El = 150 yen, I would yield a profit regardless of what I am selling. I would be able to make a killing so easily to the extent of 'uhhauhha' state.

The first item sold, the cotton gloves originally cost 300 yen for a dozen. Thus, a pair will be 25 yen. So, if 1 El = 150 yen, the profit will be 125 yen each. Since I sold off two dozen at once, 24 El = 3600yen. Although I'm not sure what are the demand for gloves here, it would likely be profitable if I were to bring in leather gloves or gunsoku (soldiers socks) in and open up a store,

The item that was sold at the highest price this time —to be more precise, the item that was confidently priced by Rebecca-san—-was, the paper.
At first, I was thinking of buying 500 sheets of copy paper from the Home Centre to sell but, as I thought they look too 'clean' to be sold in the other world. As a result, I ended up selecting washi. I took off the vinyl wrappers intentionally and tried selling off the string binding the papers too. After all, this trivial technique was also necessary.

The place where I bought them from was naturally the 100 yen shop. They have washi and almost everything sold there so it's really convenient………Who would've believed that 10 bundles of washi could be sold for 1 gold coin! It would be scary if it gets too lucrative so it might be better for me to exercise caution when I sell the papers……….
Rather, are clean papers that sought-after in this other world?

Personally, the goods that seem to yield the most harmless profit were the knitting yarns. I have purchased quite a lot of them but they were sold out instantly. The power of raw material is amazing.

Well, since I couldn't leave the unexpectedly prosperous place earlier due to the booming business, I quickly cleaned up so I could hunt for things to be auctioned this time.
I was planning on buying a weapon for myself after this so I could get Rebecca-san to teach me how to fight……..
I can finally arm myself with a sword!

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After going around the flea market for about two hours and stocking up on various goods, I went back to the inn to leave the things behind before coming out once again.
Now, let's go buy a weapon!

"Jirou, are you really fine with second-hand ones? Generally new weapons should be better, isn't it?" [Rebecca]

"Yes. I'm quite curious on what kind of second-hand weapons are available so I would like to take a look at them first by any means." [Jirou]

Thus, we're currently at a shop that sells used weapons and armours to Rebecca-san. In short, it was called a second-hand shop but, I had requested her to introduce me to one despite that.
I made a great find among the used items when I was purchasing Diana's robe the other time so it came across my mind that there might be more if I were to search through them.
I have used it several times while I was shopping at the flea market earlier but, today was certainly the festival for『The Mirror of Truth』!

Chapter 034 – The smell of rusting iron from the second-hand shop

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Chapter 34: The smell of rusting iron from the second-hand shop

The profit earned from the flea market today was 2312 El, totalling up to 346,800 yen once the amount is converted to Japanese yen. Should I just start a light business in the flea market?! It wasn't an amount of money that was measurable just by the degree of my feelings. Rather, wasn't this the average level of monthly salary earned by a full-time working adult in the society? That was actually equivalent to my two months of income. Besides, most of the goods sold today were bought from the 100 yen shop so the total cost price was supposed to be less than 10,000 yen.

I hope it wouldn't cause trouble for the others since everyone bought them at a really cheap price from me. I should be more careful in pricing all the items the next time. I would like to avoid being too conspicuous as much as possible——I have already tried my best in making Diana not that noticeable——after all, the other world people are my fortune.

By the way, even though the profit received was 2312 El, it has dwindled down to 1800 El after stocking up on various things to be sold in auction.
The sum might not amount to much once converted to Japanese yen but, I might not have enough to purchase a decent weapon in spite of them being second-hand. As far as my research on this world goes, the amount needed to acquire an excellent weapon and armour here was the same as buying a modern day sword and a brand new warrior's armour in Japan……………Well, the blacksmith has forged each weapon by painstakingly striking them one by one so it was justifiable. Thus I came to the conclusion that second-hand ones would be my remaining options.

……Though, even if I might have given up on getting a brand new cheap weapon, I still have an incurable materialistic side…..
I don't care even if they are used goods. I want an excellent one! Cheap but a still decent, second hand but still of a good quality! That's my kind of philosophy!

“Here it is.” [Rebecca]

The second hand shop that we were guided to by Rebecca-san was located along the river, quite a considerable distance away from the main street.
The scale of the shop was exactly the same as the scale of a convenience store, with the armours casually arranged all over the place in the narrow space to the extent of encroaching the territory outside the shop. I wonder if I should call this a recycle shop or an old fashioned second hand shop.

This place did indeed give off a treasure trove vibe. This is it! This is it! I was looking for a shop like this! As expected of Rebecca-san! She’s so dependable.

“So, what’s your plan on the types of weapon? The fighting methods varies depending on the weapons you select and swords themselves are separated into different kinds too.” [Rebecca]

I see. Certainly even for swords, there are two-handed sword, one-handed sword, straight sword, sabre, katana, and rapier. Daggers are also a type of sword classification and there will be a problem concerning the style if you require a shield too. As I thought, I don’t think I want to be a two-handed sword wielder though………
But well, I don’t have much strength so I guess a one-handed sword would be the best bet. Having a shield might work too.

“True, a one-handed sword and shield will clearly be a more stable choice…..but, that is only if you are going against『human opponents』. Depending on what Jirou is arming yourself for, let’s say if you were facing monsters or demon beasts or sub-humans, it would be advisable to go straight for simple offensive power.” [Rebecca]

Hmm. Demon beasts and sub-humans are classified as ‘wild animals’ while monsters were born from demon elements….no it should be ‘appearing from’ to be more precise. Certainly I was planning to buy armours to protect myself so it would be accurate to say I would be mostly going against demon beasts. That being said, thieves and bandits might be scarier in comparison….. Come to think of it, are there something like this in the vicinity of my mansion? This is just a what if story, isn’t it? I haven’t seen demon beasts or sub-humans before too.

Then, should I make the selections by taking other areas into consideration? I

wasn’t going to jump straight into dungeon in particular (though I was curious about it). In other words, basically I should just focus on weapons against other humans but………..the possibility of the human opponents having the ability to fight back will be another separate story, isn’t it?……..
….To be honest, it sounds impossible. That being the case, rather than swords, weapons like bow and arrow that would less likely receive murderous counter-attacks will be much better.

Assuming that I have to fight against another human, specifically if bandits or thieves were to appear……
At the least, it would be a better idea to assume that I didn’t need to fight as much as possible. To be honest I didn’t really want Diana or Marina to fight too. In a worst-case scenario, if we were easily defeated, Diana and Marina would be taken away as loots while I would be killed on the spot. If the only things stolen were physical items, then it’s a cheap price to pay but it might be better to assume the worst.
Thus, it would be a good idea to think of a ‘serious battle’ as another measure for thieves.
(Rinkage: ‘Serious battle’ = Original word is ‘Gachibattle’)

In conclusion. There was no need to buy armours here for the sake of fighting with real people. Maybe I should select my armours on the other side.

“Then I’ll try building up a set in the case of demon encounters. Well, it’ll be subject to the bargains I find here though. When it comes to fighting against demons, would a two-handed sword be better than a one-handed sword?” [Jirou]

“True. Not to mention, it’s actually unnecessary taking into account that Jirou’s starting sword fighting at this age. It would be hard to ‘kill’ with just a one-handed sword. Simply put, if the same standard of weapon is wielded by someone with the same standard of skill, the attack will be around three or four times different. That is the difference between a one-handed and two-handed sword. Since you do not need to put on so much killing force against a human opponent, a one-handed sword is usually sufficient. However, to damage a demon using a one-handed sword requires considerable skill.” [Rebecca]

I see.

Then let’s try looking for a two-handed sword!

“So Jirou is fine with two-handed sword. What about the two other slave-chan?” [Rebecca]

“Ah, I am planning to buy something for the two of them too of course. What does Marina prefer? Has Marina used any kinds of weapons before?” [Jirou]

“The Laundry-Drying Pole style!” [Marina]

“Nn? What is that?……Sasaki Kojiro?”[1] [Jirou]

“I trained by myself using the laundry pole as a spear!” [Marina]

As expected of Marina. Wasn’t she just ‘playing’ sword fighting?
Well, Marina’s vocation is a ‘knight’……..so a spear should be just right.

“I have slight experience in using bow, goshujin-sama.” [Diana]

Certainly that is a staple weapon for elves.
Personally, I had wanted to remove bow as elves’ stereotypical weapon but, I guess I should prioritize efficiency than my personal taste…..Diana has yet to decide on her vocation too so there are bound to be opportunities for her to try various things out.
The fun time in trying out all the equipment will begin now!

The rays of sunlight outside that entered the shop’s interior, provided enough illumination by itself for us to rummage through the goods inside. A man who appears to be the shopkeeper was sitting at the counter near the entrance doing bookkeeping. He raised his face and greeted us lightly upon entering before returning to his work again. He didn’t seem much like the proactive type when it comes to dealing with customers. Well, there were similar shopkeepers like this in the other world too so it was the same here.

In my opinion, in spite of the cluttered condition of the shop, I actually like shopkeepers who don’t say much. Although, after looking around, it appears to be a minuscule probability of me discovering a bargain here……..Almost everything in this place looks like garbage……But, I shouldn’t abandon hope before properly inspecting every single items here.
Besides, I currently possessed “The Mirror of Truth” as my cheat skill.

At the innermost corner of the shop, I spotted around 10 two-handed swords. There were a wide range of swords neatly hung up on the wall and there were also some that were strewn all over the ground, some labelled with prices and some without. The whole sight was a huge mess.
I shall examine one by one using “The Mirror of Truth”.

These were roughly the stats received starting from the relatively clean sword.

【Type】
Melee Weapon

【Name】
Two-Handed Sword

【Commentary】
A sword that can be equipped by those with melee combat profession

【Magic Properties】
None

【Spirit Blessings】
None

【Owner】
Lockfate Opossum

The shapes didn’t seem similar and the sizes were also subtly different. Nonetheless they were still displayed as either two-handed sword or Claymore. The performance must have been the same despite the appearance.

The name under the ‘owner’ category should be the name of the shopkeeper here.

These were the stats of a large rusted sword lying on the floor.

【Type】
Melee Weapon

【Name】
Claymore -1

【Commentary】
A sword that can be equipped by those with melee combat profession
Rusty

【Magic Properties】
None

【Spirit Blessings】
None

【Owner】
Lockfate Opossum

The description was subtle.
According to Rebecca-san, we could remove the rust by bringing it to a blacksmith so it would be possible to repair it if I were to identity any good swords. Even if the current physical condition was bad, it wouldn’t be a problem selecting it so long as the base features are good enough.

I gave up on the two-handed sword section for the time being and decided to take a look at the selections of spear for Marina.
Among the assortment of cluttered short spears leaned against the wall, I discovered a lance that looks promising.

【Type】
Long-Handled Spear Weapon

【Name】
Ruined Purple Halberd -1

【Commentary】
The halberd can be equipped by those with melee combat profession
Additional『Ruined Purple』curse will be added to the attack
Rusty

【Magic Properties】
Ruined B

【Spirit Blessings】

None

【Owner】
Lockfate Opossum

It looks good or rather, it looks like a strong weapon….
Ruined curse….So one would be ruined if they were to carelessly touch the tip? It sounds dangerous, doesn't it?
I was thinking of going for an ordinary spear but this is a halberd. The halberd consists of an axe blade topped with a spike on the long shaft, also called a polearm I think? The handle was made of black wood while the tip was made of metal, the design looks like a combination of a normal spear and an axe.
Although referred to as ruined purple, the colour of the tip was darkish purple, appearing considerably rusty at the same time. Colour-wise it might look good on Marina so this should be fine.
In addition to the rust, it was also quite heavy so it was questionable if Marina could handle it. I'll just keep it in the meantime though. Since it wasn't priced, I wasn't sure if I have enough money to buy it.

"How is it? Did you find something good–?" [Rebecca]

"Well rather than a spear I think I found a good halberd. I haven't located any good two-handed sword though. I'll tentatively go through the selections of one-handed sword for now." [Jirou]

Rebecca-san approached me with a metal gauntlet in one hand. It looks like a comparatively exaggerated gauntlet but I guess she's buying it.

"Ah this? I was wondering what Jirou thinks of this one. The price is also cheap. Gauntlets are also important too, you know." [Rebecca]

"Ah thank you." [Jirou]

She seems to have selected a gauntlet for me.
Upon receiving it from Rebecca-san, I realized the weight was actually really light even though it was made of metal! The weight was probably around the same as titanium. However, it was enveloped by a pale shine so it shouldn't be titanium.
It appears to be of the same type of material as the guild card…….

Let’s appraise it immediately using ‘The Mirror of Truth’.

【Type】
Gauntlet

【Name】
Mithril Gauntlet +2

【Commentary】
This can be equipped by all professions.
The increased of high hit rate is added by the spirit’s protection.

【Magic Properties】
None

【Spirit Blessings】
High hit rate E

【Owner】
Lockfate Opossum

Oooh, that’s the first [+2] I’ve encountered! Or rather this was the first item that comes with spirit’s blessing. And what the heck, mithril!? So this was made of mithril. It was the same as the one found in games but this is certainly a fantasy world as expected. I would like to try making a mithril knife one day too. I wasn’t sure how strong a mithril is here but, in any case it was light (for metals) so even a weak person like me could equip this without any problem. Although, if I have to equip myself with this gauntlet and carry a sword simultaneously……it might exhaust me even more than if I were to participate in a kendo or a swordplay sports………
Even if this was considered as light, it should still be around 100g or 200g……

But, seeing that the price was just 450 El with high hit rate as an additional bonus, there wasn’t any other options but to buy this!

Having said that, to what extent are these [+2] or [+1] valid…….? I wouldn’t be able to tell if it weren’t for the Mirror of Truth.
Should I just try asking about it?

“Rebecca-san, are there any weapons with additional special abilities? For instance, something like a cursed weapon……” [Jirou]

“Eh? Do you mean enchanted weapons? I don’t know if they are cursed but…..erm….that’s right. There are some that were already enchanted in advance but we wouldn’t be able to know actually without first trying out the weapons. There are times when they appear in certain trustworthy shops at an incredible price though…..at least I don’t think this is that kind of shop.” [Rebecca]

It didn’t seem like a usual case. No, if we try examining them thoroughly, there were actually a few times when [+1] popped out. Or could most [+1] be a simple miscalculation in terms of the capabilities? What if the highest one was +100…… Well, I guess I wouldn’t know without first giving it a try.

Anyway, I should try hunting for one-handed sword next. The numbers of one-handed swords appear to be higher in comparison to the two-handed sword, totalling to about 30 different ones. I should be able to find something nice from them.

I went over them thoroughly using ‘The Mirror of Truth’.
As I thought, they were basically normal weapons. 「Bronze Sword」, 「Short Sword」, 「Long Sword」, 「Broadsword」, 「Scimitar」, 「Cutlass」, 「Rapier」, 「Sabre」, 「Gladius」, 「Estoc」……….
They were mainly common products or rusty ones with [-1]. The materials were generally steel I guess and the weight for each was about average. I supposed I shouldn’t treat them lightly even though they were one-handed swords. To be honest, judging from my physical strength, even if I were to buy a normal one-handed sword made of steel, it wouldn’t be possible for me to lift it up in long duration without using both hands.

After a while, I suddenly spotted a strange sword among them.

【Type】
Melee Weapon

【Name】
Rusty Sword -2

【Commentary】

An immensely rusty sword.
The real appearance could be an excellent or a low-grade sword.

【Magic Properties】

?

【Spirit Blessings】

?

【Owner】

Lockfate Opossum

I know this one, I know this one.
In the case of game, it might be a legendary sword once you re-forged it, becoming something like a Dragon Slayer Sword. I'll be buying this too.

Iya, a second-hand shop sure is fun. There was no trouble at all in choosing the items thanks to the appraising ability!

"Goshujin-sama, there seem to be several swords here too. They are not well-organized at all." [Diana]

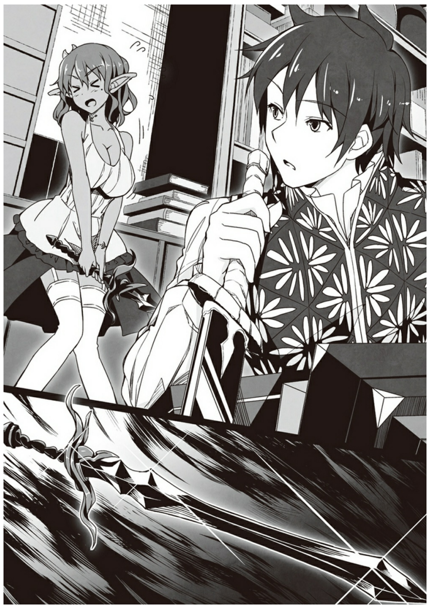
Certainly, it looks like a perfect representation of a disastrous scene with all the items tossed aside, cluttering each corner of the shop. There wasn't really a specific corner for two-handed sword or one-handed sword then. That being the case, I have no choice but to search through the entire place with a fine-tooth comb.

"If this is how things turn out, it'll be a round-robin! If there are any two-handed swords lying on the floor, bring them all to me!" [Jirou]

Thus, everyone went around, bringing what they found to me to be appraised one by one. I have initially expected the shopkeeper to say something about this but, he didn't seem bothered at all, resuming with his newspaper reading after the bookkeeping.
In a sense he appears to be living in a carefree lifestyle. The feeling he had given off made me feel a little envious.

…….But anyway, that was quite a huge number of swords he was carrying in his shop.
Including just the one-handed swords and two-handed swords, there were nearly 100 of them in total. I wonder how many it would wind up to, if I were to include daggers as well.

“My liege! There is also another one on the table.” [Marina]



Saying so, Marina brought a long sword over to me. Speaking of which, I have not taken a look at the table yet. Superficially, the table appears to be filled with nothing but garbage though I guess there were more than just garbage there.

The blade of the long sword brought over by Marina has a narrow width, questionable thin hilt with rust all over the black blade. The workmanship of the sword appears to be concealed by a layer of rust as well, an overall condition that wouldn’t make one hold any expectation from. Since the hilt was thin and the blade itself was only about 1m in length, the weight seems just right even if I were the one to use it.

I will invoke the ‘The Mirror of Truth’ on it even if it might look like a fail product.
It should be ‘Long Sword -1’ to me at best but……..

—-It turned out to be an unexpectedly lucky find, more than what I had expected.

【Type】
Melee Weapon

【Name】
Jet-Black Heart of Blood Magic Sword -1

【Commentary】
A magic sword that has absorbed the blood of a thousand demon beasts.

A sword that can be equipped by those with melee combat profession.
An increase to evasion rate has been added by the blessings of the magic colour 『Jet-Black』.
Additional curse, 『Absorption』 will be added to the attack once it hits the target.
A high critical rate against demon beasts.
Rusty.

【Magic Properties】
Evasion rate increase B
Absorption C
Anti-Demon Beasts A

【Spirit Blessings】
None

【Owner】
None [2]

Rinkage Footnotes

[1] Sasaki Kojiro was a prominent swordsman during the Sengoku and early Edo period. His main weapon, a nodachi was called, “Monohoshizao 物干し竿” (The Laundry-Drying Pole). You can read more about him here.

[2] Yup ‘none’ was stated under ‘owner’

Chapter 035 – The smell of a one-of-a-kind item from the Jet-Black Magic Sword

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Chapter 35: The smell of a one-of-a-kind item from the Jet-Black Magic Sword

“Rebecca-san, what do you think of this sword?” [Jirou]

“Eh? It’s quite rusty, isn’t it? Rather than this sword, the one here is much better….” [Rebecca]

Saying so, Rebecca-san showed me another strange, smaller sized sword in her hand. She didn’t seem to like the magic sword.
In my opinion after the appraisal, it didn’t seem to be magic sword just because it was cursed. There might be an issue on the price but I don’t think it would be that expensive seeing that it was chucked aside on the table.
There wasn’t any name listed as its owner so, in a way, there wasn’t any proof that this sword belonged to this shop in the first place.

In the end, I brought the sword recommended by Rebecca-san (It might be good to use this for training. It’s heavy so I could practice swinging it like a bat……..) , as well as the Rusty Sword -2, Mithril Gauntlet +2, Ruined Purple Halberd and the Heart of Blood Magic Sword over to the shopkeeper.
Now the main problem is, how much will this be in total…… If there are any extra money after buying all these, there were actually more things that I still wanted to buy………. Come to think of it, I should set aside some expenses to repair the ones with rust……
Well in truth, judging from just the ones with price attached, it was actually over budget already.

“These will be 2000 El all together. I was a little lost since you have bought quite a lot of items here. But, you have quite a strange taste, don’t you? Purchasing such rusty swords.” [shopkeeper]

It came! The total rough estimate!

The weapons that were priced were the Halberd, Two-handed sword and Mithril Gauntlet. Each was respectively 1250 El, 300 El and 450 El.

In other words, the Rusty Sword -2 and the Magic Sword were essentially free! Ufufu! Free! Right now (substantially) I'm shopping for free.

"What is this sword? It looks a little different than a long sword. How much is the price for this one?" [Jirou]

I pointed at the Magic Sword as I asked. Since I have the appraisal ability, I knew the name and the abilities of the sword but, people normally wouldn't be able to see it. Hence I was a little curious on what they think of the sword and how much would it cost to sell it.

"Aa….that sword was left behind by my family a long time ago. The rust couldn't be removed and it was strangely heavy too so I couldn't sell it off at all. Even if it was sold before, it was immediately returned again for some reason. If oniisan is buying it then I thought of just giving it to you for free. So please don't return it again if it's possible." [shopkeeper]

"So that means, this is not just a normal long sword….right?" [Jirou]

"I think that long sword is just a long sword but, it's just that, the sword itself is heavy and the rust couldn't be removed. It might not be made of an ordinary metal…..Well, after all the very first person who have wanted to buy it in my generation was oniisan. If you were to return it in future, please tell me the reason in detail." [shopkeeper]

So he immediately assumed that it would be returned?……..
Or rather, isn't it going to be problematic if I can't remove the rust? As expected I wouldn't be able to put it to practical use if it was rusty. I would definitely return it too if I couldn't remove the rust…..
And why did he keep saying that this sword was heavy over and over again? This sword wasn't really heavy to begin with. I wonder how heavy is an ordinary long sword.
I should ask Rebecca-san to give it a try.

"Uun? It is certainly strangely heavy isn't it? Even if this sword made usable again, it might end up being something peculiar, Jirou. Wouldn't it be better to give up on this one?" [Rebecca]

The weight was just something really light to the degree of me being able to lift it up with one hand but, Rebecca-san who was supposed to be stronger than me was holding it with two hands…..It's strange. Was it honestly that heavy?
As I was thinking so, I received the Magic Sword back. As I thought it wasn't really heavy at all. Seeing that this is a magic sword, I wonder if there was something different about it.

Well, there's no use in thinking about it.
2000 El. That would be two gold coins of expenditure. (It will be close to 300,000 yen if I were to convert it!) The price might not be bad in the case of these items. I should buy them quickly.
I was thinking of buying things like armours eventually too but, I should do that the next time. I don't have any more money!

"Thanks for your purchase~" [shopkeeper]

Upon exiting the shop, Diana spoke out.

"Goshujin-sama, will you be equipping yourself with that sword?" [Diana]

'That sword' might be referring to the Magic Sword in my hand. I was carrying it myself since it was heavy for Rebecca-san. The other items were equally divided and carried by everyone.

"Equip? I mean, I do plan to give this sword a try. I have bought it after all." [Jirou]

"So you plan on equipping it then?" [Diana]

"Aa, oo. I will be equiping it (……..)." [Jirou]

PON As soon as I said that, a similar looking fairy that popped out every time a guidance was achieved appeared. Although, the attire looks plain compared to the time during the guidance. Wasn't it the same guy?

"Magic Sword no. 4, 『Heart of Blood』 the unique weapon has acknowledged the player 『Jirou Ayase』. The camouflage is released."

PON

It wasn't the same rude guy! Or rather, player? Unique weapon? Camouflage? When the fairy disappeared, a strange black light begun enveloping the wrapped up magic sword at the same time. Out of surprised, I let go off the sword.

“Wh-what’s wrong? You dropped your sword.” [Rebecca]

“Ah no it’s nothing…….tte, o,oo….it became really pretty.” [Jirou]

“Ee? Eh? What is it? Eh, is this the sword earlier? What happened?” [Rebecca]

It looks like a completely different sword now unlike its rusty appearance earlier. No, the shape didn’t change though…..

A blade with a tint of blue on its glossy black surface. I see. So that was the reason why the colour was ‘jet-black’. The blade was originally black but, I guess that wasn’t due to the black rust. The fairy did say that ‘The camouflage is released’ so that might have been a disguise to make it look that way.

Even though the form was the same, the vermillion colour on the hilt that reminded me of blood was so vivid that it really sucked me in. The guard and pommel were inlaid with red stones that look similar to corals.

No way…..it looks cool……

Despite its rusty appearance earlier, the surface mysteriously underwent a complete change, becoming glossy after the camouflage was released.

It’s no wonder Rebecca-san was surprised after seeing it. I was shocked too but, I had a feeling that I became quite accustomed to it, after taking into account that this is a fantasy world.

I picked up the Magic Sword and used the Mirror of Truth on it once again. The name stated under ‘owner’ was ‘none’ earlier but, my name should be listed inside now.

【Type】
Melee Weapon

【Name】
Jet-Black Heart of Blood Magic Sword

【Commentary】
A magic sword that has absorbed the blood of a thousand demon beasts.

A sword that can be equipped by those with melee combat profession.
An increase to evasion rate has been added by the blessings of the magic colour 『Jet-Black』.
Additional curse, 『Absorption』 will be added to the attack once it hits the target.
A high critical rate against demon beasts.

【Magic Properties】
Evasion rate increase B
Absorption C
Anti-Demon Beasts A

【Spirit Blessings】
None

【Owner】
Jirou Ayase
※Non-transferable

Oo…the [-1] has disappeared. I thought it might be useless if I didn't polish it but, this is really a huge gain……..
In addition, it was non-transferable……
The fairy did say that this was a unique weapon. In other words, could it be unique because it is「※Non-transferable」?
Although, even if I were to equip myself with this kind of weapon, I don't think that I would be parting with it in particular too….Well, it's useless to think too deeply into it if I don't understand it…….I don't have any intention to give it to another person anyway.

But, the more I look at this magic sword, the more it fascinated me. Since I bought the sword as it is, I should make a sheath with a matching design and colour for it. After seeing Rebecca-san and the rest during the festival, I did think that it would be nice for me to carry a sword too. However, for me to be able to achieve this dream that soon further proved that this is certainly a fantasy world.

In addition to that, I received two more new guidance too. I was thankful for them since I haven't received any guidance lately. I only have two spirit stones in my possession now so I would be glad if I could get more of them…… Although, it might be possible to buy more of them once I become wealthy after running my business. Right now, I have yet to reach the level whereby I can do that. I wasn't really clear on the usage depending on the different types of spirit stones at the same time too.

Even though Rebecca-san was looking at the transformed sword curiously, she did not try pursuing the reason in particular. Marina was staring at it with a pair perfectly rounded eyes in the shape of two 'O's while Diana was narrowing her eyes with an indescribable expression on her face.

"Diana, did you happen to know something about this?" [Jirou]

"No…..I don't know anything about it. But, the part on equipping the sword, ….most of them were uttered out unconsciously……" [Diana]

Diana herself seems to be puzzled about it herself after saying so.
You should not think too much about it at times like this. Let's just conclude that this was the will of the great spirits.
I was gradually getting used to being a part of this world now.

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In the evening, Hetty-san and the group of maintenance team returned.
Diana's spirit magic has shortened the estimated time taken in maintaining the road and garden significantly. Considering that almost all of their tasks have been reduced and there weren't much places in the mansion that needed repairs, the whole project should be completed in less than a week if everything goes well.
This was a happy miscalculation. At this rate, I might be able to spend my New Year in this mansion.

After that, we went to the shop recommended by Hetty-san to have a drink as promised.
We went back to the inn once to drop off our things so we could lighten our load before going out again.

Hetty-san's recommended shop was a Western-style bar located among the residences earlier, taking us about 20 minutes of walk after exiting the main street from the inn.

The sight of the different shades of red and orange light emitted by the lamp was impressive. It was a fashionable shop. Fundamentally it should be built in a similar way to the rest of the buildings that were built of stones. Wooden pillars were then allocated to each pivot points and the shop's interior was applied with stucco, giving off a clean image. It's a bar on the main street! That was exactly how I strongly envisioned a bar to be. Since that was how I was expecting the shop to look like, my expectation was somehow betrayed in a good way.

Sitting at a not so wide table, we ordered our drinks individually. After leaving the task of ordering the shop's recommended food to Hetty-san, our other world's drinking party begun.
Rather, this should be a women's only meeting since I am the only man here.

"Iya, this is quite a good shop with a nice atmosphere. The beer tastes good too." [Jirou]

"True. It was a little surprising for Hetty to have known a shop like this." [Rebecca]

"I'm glad that it's to your liking. Though I am curious as to what impression Becky has of me." [Hetty]

Saying so Hetty-san took a sip of the wine. Rebecca-san was gulping down the wine at a frightfully fast pace too.
Diana, Marina and I have ordered a full glass of beer. Even though Diana appears to be someone who was able to hold her liquor, Marina seems to be the opposite. Well, I'm not really that good at holding my liquor too actually.

Rebecca-san and Hetty-san were originally acquaintance. As I thought there should be a lot of things to catch up with between the two of them so the drinking party started off with their conversation.

"That's cause……regardless of how I tried envisioning it, the impression of meal that Hetty has left me was living off the field." [Rebecca]

"That couldn't be helped since that was a battlefield!" [Hetty]

"Even if it might be a battlefield, I don't think there are any other women in existence except Hetty who can eat a live beast worm directly." [Rebecca]

"C-Could you stop that. You're ruining the image!" [Hetty]

As I thought they seem to get along just fine. It appears that Hetty-san who usually behaves like an elegant maid also has times when she frolicked around. Her real nature might have surfaced when she started talking to Rebecca-san, looking fairly like an affable person now.
Even so, a battlefield….. Should I try asking more about that?

“Were both of you from the same group of mercenaries?” [Jirou]

“Well true, I guess you can say that we’re from the same group of mercenaries……” [Rebecca]

“You can say that it’s a different group of mercenaries too. No…..strictly speaking it’s a completely different group of mercenaries. In a way, the two of us were mutual enemies. Becky, does Jirou-sama know about your vocation?” [Hetty]

“No. I have not mentioned it…….Well, I didn’t really intend to hide it in particular……Jirou, do you want to know what my vocation is?” [Rebecca]

“Yes. I’d like to know. To be honest I was curious about it for some time now.” [Jirou]

I was actually really interested in it. Although Rebecca-san is a strong person that has given me the impression of someone who is capable of doing anything thrown at her, she should have a profession…..or rather vocation. Even if it wasn’t anything related to magician, seeing that she used to be a mercenary, I guess it should be something that has to do with combat related vocations…….

“Jirou-sama. If you wanted to know Becky’s vocation just out of pure curiosity, please stop while you’re ahead……That girl’s vocation is, a little unique.” [Hetty]

“Is it an impolite conduct to enquire one’s vocation? Certainly it would be hard for me to answer as well if someone were to ask me about my vocation…….Rebecca-san, I’m sorry. I wasn’t being considerate enough.” [Jirou]

“Unn. I’m fine with it. I believe in Jirou.” [Rebecca]

She laughed lightly after saying so. Rebecca-san seems to have entered a cute mode after getting a little drunk.

“Arara. Becky, could it that kind of thing?” [Hetty]

“It’s a secret.” [Rebecca]

What could that kind of thing be referring to? Their conversation became secretive all of the sudden so there were times when I don’t get what they were talking about.

However, a ‘slightly unique vocation’ is it…..If it was something like my vocation, ‘swindler’, it might be hard for someone to say it out…. I should demonstrate my trust too if she were to tell me about it.

“I believe in Rebecca-san too. So for me to blab about it after hearing it out of curiosity is something that is impossible.” [Jirou]

“You hear that, Becky? Good for you.” [Hetty]

“Ufufu. Then I guess I’ll say it~…………..though they aren’t any important or unusual vocation alright? At most it’ll just be at the level whereby I’ll be greatly embarrassed if this was spread around as rumours……My vocation is—-” [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san said it in one breath.

“—-Knight and Scout. I encountered Hetty when I was spying on her mercenary group.” [Rebecca]

Chapter 036 – The smell of wine from the women's meeting

Chapter 36: The smell of wine from the women's meeting

Based on the story, the relationship between Rebecca-san and Hetty-san started when Rebecca-san came over to join Hetty-san's mercenary group. Since the leader of the group was a woman and majority of Hetty-san's mercenary team members consisted of females, Rebecca-san has blended in naturally and no one suspected that she was a spy until the end. *"I have never in my wildest dream expected that she would have double jobs as a knight and scout".* Those were Hetty-san's words.

When I tried enquiring more about that, most of the double jobs or triple jobs obtained are usually closely related to each other. For example, it would be really rare for someone to receive a combat related job and a manufacturing related job at the same time.

Much less, in the case of Rebecca-san, she acquired a combat related job and moreover—-I'm not sure how much of these are applied in this world though—-bravery, generosity, loyalty…..and the word 'chivalry' must have somewhat existed in this world. Among the combat related profession, a knight in particular has a 'pure' kind of image.

The other vocation, 'scout'—-in other words a spy, undercover agent or espionage agent, to put it bluntly, is a 'job that involves secretly sniffing around to obtain information'.

In fact, the vocation, 'scout' doesn't seem to portray a really good image even in this world. In addition to the 'knight' vocation that proves to be meaningless to women, I guess it must have been unpleasant to Rebecca-san even though the person herself said, "It's really nothing much".

It was the same with my 'swindler' vocation too. There are times when the vocations given were either a hit or a miss, so I couldn't help but think that this vocation thing itself is really questionable.

“Becky joined before the Albacete dispute and left in the middle of the conflict but, the reason given was『I’m resigning because I’m pregnant』……… Everyone has been well-deceived by her you know, Jirou-sama.” [Hetty]

Hetty-san stirred up the conversation in one breath as she helped herself to the wine. Her pace seems really fast or was it because of her wildness due to her former job as a mercenary?……

“Considering all that, it shouldn’t seem suspicious at all.” [Rebecca]

“Hmm, well yeah. Although, even if that Becky suddenly declared that she’s ‘pregnant’….” [Hetty]

Hetty-san glared at Rebecca-san with half-opened eyes as she poured the wine into Rebecca-san’s cup. By the way, this was already the 3rd one (decanter).

“What’s that supposed to mean?” [Rebecca]

“Fufu, I’ve not talk to everyone in the camp but even among them, you in particular have given off the impression of a maiden in love.” [Hetty]

Oo….there were times like that for Rebecca-san too?…….I wasn’t sure when this incident occurred based on the conversation but, it should probably be around 5 years ago? It must have been an unexpected great love story between her and Shello-san I guess.

The drinking party continued.
Diana and Marina have not participated in the conversation at all and were basically just listening to the story quietly. Well, it strongly appears to be a reunion party between Rebecca-san and Hetty-san this time so it couldn’t be helped. I’m kind of like an extra too………

Rebecca-san was originally from a different mercenary group from Hetty-san……She was a member from a notable group known as ‘Scarlet Wedge’ at that time. They were both enemies during the Albacete dispute but, after the conflict ended they reverted back to normal mercenaries and were no longer adversaries. I wonder if Hetty-san was the only person whom Rebecca-san has revealed to about having spy as her vocation.
Based on Rebecca-san’s story, *“Hetty-san’s place was really comfortable to me and I was able to get along well with her too. Rather than prioritizing my*

vocation I guess my feelings are comparatively unsuitable to be a scout." Well, a spy who exposed herself as spy was similar to losing their own merit as a spy in a way……….It might probably be a dilemma that was caused by the clashing of the two vocations; 'Knight' and 'Scout' that have totally different natures.

While we were having our chat, myriads of food were carried over to our table. Meat! Meat! It's meat again!
I wasn't sure if this was Hetty-san's preference but, the meat rate is high! Oven-baked skewers, boiled meat broth and sashimi (meat too). Meat with meat and doubled with more meat! It's a steep level!
However, each and all of them tasted really good. The seasonings used were much simpler than the inn's dining room but, the taste was really intoxicating, probably because of the materials used or the atmosphere around. I was by no means drunk at all.
There were a variety of meat dishes served that includes, rich looking meat, lightly cooked meat, firm chewy meat and meat that literally melts in your mouth. Countless tastes have emerged simultaneously the moment I took a bite of the meat. I wonder if the meat from Japan…..or rather from earth like beef, pork and chicken are something basically really simple. Well since there are an abundance of wild animals, the wildlife food chain is strong.
Although, this sashimi meat in particular was really rare since dishes such as Yukke and sliced beef are no longer served in majority of the shops in Japan. As I thought raw meat is excellent~
However, food poisoning comes to mind when I started thinking of raw meat. If I were to get food poisoning in this other world, it wouldn't just be troublesome. I might end up dying too………Let's just hope that the wine here has been sterilized.

While I was being immersed in the taste of raw meat after a long time, Hetty-san's sudden question broke my reverie.

"By the way Jirou-sama, will Becky be moving in as well once the maintenance of the mansion is completed? There is the matter with regards to the furniture arrangements too but I would like to enquire beforehand." [Hetty]

"Eeeeeehhh!? How did that topic come about? As expected I don't think it's good to stay together with a married woman isn't it?" [Jirou]

Out of shock I almost spat out the raw meat. Speaking of which, this person might have been wondering about the relationship between me and Rebecca-san. Could it be that, she didn't know that she's married?
No, my conjecture might have hit the mark. Married woman? She stared at Rebecca-san suspiciously. Rebecca-san lowered her eyebrows.
We've been acquainted for a long time but when did you get married? You've been keeping silent all this while about this. Could it be this kind of situation?

"……What's the meaning of this Becky? Are you married already? ……I was certain that you weren't yet since you couldn't forget about Isaac….." [Hetty]

"Ee, eeeh!? Ahaha. Iya, well I guess." [Rebecca]

Rebecca-san flustered. Was Isaac Rebecca-san's ex-lover? The deceased leader of the mercenary group that occasionally came up in the conversation previously was apparently Isaac.
Since Shello-san was said to be the vice leader, he might have comforted her after the leader died, thus shortening the distance between the two of them…..Well, that sounds like a common story.

"It smells very much like lies, Becky. Are you perhaps telling a lie to Jirou-sama?" [Hetty]

"I-I have not! I have not say anything at all." [Rebecca]

"Hmmm. Jirou-sama, is Becky really married? Who's the other party?" [Hetty]

"Eh? Will it be alright for me to answer this? It's Shello-san who used to be the mercenary group's vice leader, isn't it? He's a really kind person and has helped me out in various ways before." [Jirou]

"Aa………….I see. So that's how it is……………Becky, why didn't you tell him the truth?" [Hetty]

"Eh, no, I mean……….I had thought that he might notice it immediately so….or rather since he didn't notice it, it ended up dragging on till now…….I have not affirmed it though…… Although we have intentionally portrayed it that way to the people in the city since it would be really troublesome if they were to know that I'm single." [Rebecca]

What is up with this flow of conversation? Could someone explain to me what is going on?!

“Shello Roth, the feared『Monster (Juggernaut)』was one of the strongest warrior and also the vice leader of『Scarlet Wedge』. He’s a combat maniac who made use of almost all the spirit stones in hand to preserve his youth…….and also” [Hetty]

While I was having a huge question mark hovering over my head, a mischievous smile floated across Hetty-san’s face as she continued.

“He’s Becky’s biological father.” [Hetty]

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In the end, what does that mean?
So Shello-san and Rebecca-san whom I have initially thought to be a pair of husband and wife are actually a parent and child living quietly in a secluded place? No…..there was nothing strange about that though………It appears that the reason he looks fairly young was due to the usage of spirit stone for the ‘restoration of youth’ too…..
Thinking back on the flow of events, I have somewhat understood it now. What Rebecca-san said was true. I think she has never once mentioned that they are a ‘married couple’. I was the one who have misunderstood it myself.
As Rebecca-san has said, it was a fact that they have made the people in the city think that they were a pair of husband and wife though…..Why is that?

“I am honestly surprised. I had always thought that Shello-san and Rebecca-san are both married…. But if I were to think about this carefully, they do look similar, don’t they? This was my blind spot or rather…..I didn’t realize it at all. But Rebecca-san, why did you make the people in the city think that both of you are married? How do I put it, you might have lost the opportunity for any possible encounter.” [Jirou]

“After leader died, I had initially intended to not get involved in love or marriage anymore. I thought that it might be good to live by myself for the rest of my life.” [Rebecca]

After the said leader passed away, rather than mourning his death, I guess she has decided to be a nun, in a term typically used in Japan. That subject kind of piqued my interest a little so let’s try probing more into it. By the way, this was the 7th decanter now. Aren’t they drinking too much?

“Are you curious? About the relationship between me and leader.” [Rebecca]

“This Becky. Behaving all cute like this even though it was only a one-sided love with Isaac. No…….to be more accurate I guess I should say, despite being only a fan.” [Hetty]

“Only a…..fan?” [Jirou]

“The leader of Scarlet Wedge, Isaac Maitri. He was not only blessed with two rare vocations, ‘Paladin’ and ‘General’, he’s also a legend among the mercenaries for carrying an undefeated record. Appraised as the Sky-blue of the Daybreak, he has scarlet coloured hair that resembles the colour of the spirit stone and a pair of deep blue eyes. His sweet mask was able to attract not only women but also men…….that was how he was described as like a character out of a story. Although, there were also girls who joined the team in hopes of getting closer to him. Even though Becky seemed to have joined only because her father brought her along, as expected, just like watching a dragon slaying Hero from a drama, she fell in love with him at first sight similar to a maiden in love.” [Hetty]

“Hold it, hold it! Could you not make up stories arbitrary!? Though, the situation does more or less match.” [Rebecca]

“Isn’t it fine if the story matches?” [Hetty]

……I see.
An ikemen who was a holy knight, general and also leader of a group, was it? It’s no wonder she fell in love. I would too if it were me. He might not be around anymore but, I’d like to meet him at least once. A super ikemen from the other world………The dagger that Rebecca-san was keeping in her house was「an item bestowed to the leader by the Emperor」. As I thought he must be quite an influential mercenary.

…..rather, the description of Shello-san earlier sounded amazing too. 「Monster (Juggernaut)」…… He has given me the image of a caring ojisan and oniisan but, he must be really strong when it comes to fighting. I have casually

asked him to teach me how to fight the last time but, somehow I felt nervous now.
Or, if Hetty-san has some spare time, it might be a good idea to have her teach me instead too.

After that, the boisterous conversation between Rebecca-san and Hetty-san reigned on and they ended up arguing with each other until the closing time.
The two of them were outrageously drunk.

Chapter 037 – The smell of colour from the magic stone

Chapter 37: The smell of colour from the magic stone

“I want horses. About three of them. The mansion is located too far from the city and Diana was also, 『I don’t like walking. My legs feel sore』 and was throwing a tantrum one way or another. That way, Diana will be able to have a horse for herself too. So you see.” [Jirou]

“…….no matter what, that is too much, goshujin-sama.” [Diana]

The next day after finishing a total of 12 decanters in the drinking party, while everyone was riding in the carriage that was heading towards the mansion, I was trying to give it my all to convey my desire to own the horse to Hetty-san. I felt bad for Diana but, I decided to try making use of her, showing the other party that she absolutely wanted the horse. The reason being, the house of Solo’s backup was pretty much for the sake of Diana.
I want one! So I will be unreasonable.
Although Diana frowned on hearing my somewhat exaggerated speech, there was no other ways that I could think of if I wanted to get three of them at the same time. This was the only way! Probably.

“Aaa, yes. Horse……horse is it. I comprehend. The we’ll prepare three horses for you. Urgh….” [Hetty]

I did it! My request was approved easily! I was pressing her for the answer while she is still in a hungover state so, could that be the cause of my victory!? Rather, it felt like she was probably fine with it even if I were to ask her normally. Aren’t horses quite expensive? But well, there was no point in thinking about it if I have already achieved what I wanted. Milk it for all its worth.
By the way, Rebecca-san was on such good terms with Hetty-san that they were having hangover at the same time. I could hear her murmuring, “I went over overboard and drank too much…….” every now and then.

"Thank you very much. It would be fine after the maintenance of the residence is completed. I'll be counting on you. Hey, thank her too, Diana!" [Jirou]

"Since we'll be getting them anyway, I prefer a white one." [Diana]

"Marina, has never ridden a horse before, so I'm a little nervous if I am able to do it." [Marina]

Requesting for something like a white one, isn't she being selfish now!? Is that's the case then I would like a black one! I would like to try naming one as Kokuoh-Go. [1]

Marina appeared to be concern about the caring of the horses. Certainly it will be tough taking care of all three of them once we received the horses. I have not taken that into account to be honest.....I'll need to get horse feed too, and there is also a matter in regard to their brushing and the ways to manage the manure disposal.

Although, we should be able to handle it somehow if we were to receive a first-hand lecture from Rebecca-san who has already owned a horse. If the worst comes to the worst, we could also employ those who have experience in managing the horses.

Upon reaching the mansion, the construction work today appeared to have already begun. Quite a number of workers could be seen busily working.

For the time being I wanted to confirm the progress of the repairs so I requested the permission from Hetty-san to allow me to observe the procedure of their work.

First of all, I ensured that the door to the basement was properly locked. A major cleaning was apparently done yesterday. Even though it didn't seem like they have started anything large scale yet, they were carrying the diatomaceous soils for walls and quite huge looking lumbers to the garden so they were probably going to start painting the walls, extend the building and build the stable now. Just watching all these made me look forward to the completion now.

While looking around the mansion, I suddenly recalled that I have planned to check out the attic once the workers come in.

There were dust all over so I didn't really want to enter there by myself but, it should be fine once I leave the cleaning to the contractors. I immediately went over to Hetty-san so I could borrow several skilled workers.

The door to the attic was opened (by a group of young workers) and the dust-filled room was then invaded (by the group of young workers).
I have actually intended to leave everything to those young skilled workers but, after taking into account that there could be treasures stored in the attic and there might be possibilities of the items getting stolen, I ended up going in with them after putting on a mask. Well, I was monitoring them.
I understood it well that I should've done so from the start……..
The space in the attic appeared to be quite huge. I had originally planned to turn this into our luggage room but, there were still a few items remaining inside the room unexpectedly. Seeing that there was nothing left behind in the lower level of the mansion, I have assumed the attic to be empty as well. Hence, even though there were just a few pieces of items here, it was still beyond my expectation.
At one glance, the items remained were a small chest, a black box and a cabinet. It was possible that the insides were bare but, I guess I'll just inspect them in spite of the dust.

First, I'll open the black box. 2/3 of the box appeared to be filled up with black dried-up nuts, each of them resembling an oversized acorn. They were probably something like emergency rations. When I was about to reach out my hand for the nuts for closer observation, one of the young workers said, "Ah, that's a fire nut. It will ignite fire easily so please be careful when you touch it."
What the heck do you mean by fire nut? How am I supposed to take it if I don't touch it? Apparently, it would be fine if I were to pick them up using a fire tong. These nuts are a kind of portable fire starter that are popular among adventurers, but they are not something that are really out of the ordinary. However, considering that it has the ability to trigger fire as soon as one touches it using bare hands, it must be quite a high performance nut.

The contents of the cabinet were, only several pieces of cloth. White, blue, red, green, yellow……There were several dozens of different coloured fabrics inside. Since I didn't have any plan to use these cloth, I just left them as is.

Lastly, I examined the chest.
It shouldn't be a big deal since they were probably going to be something useless

anyway. That was what I had initially thought but, what came out of the chest were 12 gems neatly wrapped up in a white cloth.

These are not spirit stones but gems. As far as I knew, the spirit stones here are not as beautifully cut as the gems that are sold over-the-counter in the shops in Japan. The ones here look like slightly polished ores and the sizes are as big as a fist.

Therefore, these are definitely gems without a doubt but, not only are the textures smooth like turquoise, the transparencies and colours are also different respectively.

I didn’t understand it well but, I invoked ‘The Mirror of Truth’ on the blue gem in my hand. It would be good if they were actually something valuable.

【Type】
Magic Stone

【Name】
Heart of Blue

【Commentary】
The magic colour『blue』can be added to the subject with this magic stone.

【Magic Properties】
Reflection D

【Spirit Blessings】
None

【Owner】
Jirou Ayase

The name Heart of Blue are so commonly used!

I have had numerous items with this kind of shade before but, it was the first for gems with this particular colour…………

Even so, this gem appeared to have reflective properties as well. It might be really convenient if I were to use it on my shield…..

Although, it was a little unfortunate that my name was already listed as the owner. If this had gone well, I would have the opportunity to know who the previous owner of this residence was.

In addition to the blue coloured gem, there were also other primary coloured gems like red and green mixed in as well. Metallic coloured ones like gold and silver as well as marble-like and transparent gems could be seen among them too.
I should examine them one by one at a later time in the future. Nevertheless, they proved to be quite good finds……… It would be a great idea to add them to my armours if there were any of them that possessed the properties to increase defence.

I retrieved the gems and returned downstairs to find Diana and Marina waiting there for me. Hetty-san and Rebecca-san appeared to have gone outside for a breath of fresh air. It must be tough getting a hangover……..Well, they did have a little bit too much to drink yesterday.

"Diana, do you know what this is? I found it upstairs but…." [Jirou]

I showed the Heart of Blue to Diana. It looked like a usual gem at the first glance but, seeing that Diana is a high elf, she might be able to appraise it from a different point of view……

"?…..Is this a….gem? It's really pretty and colourful." [Diana]

Apparently it looked just like a normal gem to her. Well, in fact, it wouldn't look like anything else other than a normal gem to people usually.
……..That could only mean that, there was also a possibility that someone might accidentally sell a gem like the Heart of Blue as a normal gem, wasn't it?
Iya~ anyway, it's troublesome, isn't it? Having a highly in demand appraisal ability in this other world. From now on, I should first appraise every single gem that I come across before doing anything else.

After that, since we didn't have anything else to do, we left the maintenance work to Hetty-san and went to Rebecca-san's house.
That was because, Rebecca-san would be teaching us horse riding and sword fighting until the mansion is done. I could finally ride in tandem with no qualms after knowing that Rebecca-san and Shello-san are not a married couple!
………No, it might be bad idea to wrap my arms around the waist of someone's daughter when we're in front of the father.

But well…..horse riding itself fully provides one with dreams. If I were to ride in tandem with Marina, I could cling to her waist or grope her breasts as I like and if I were to ride with Diana, I could also wrap my arms around her waist or tousled her hair freely.
We have already ordered 3 horses but, there could be a possibility of this mindset embedded in their minds. A master will always cling to the slave from the back when they travel by horse. Should I change the order now? I think it might affect the efficiency of things in the future if I were to prioritize my personal desire instead though.

Just as I was walking around, thinking that it wouldn't really matter, Diana suddenly appeared with a meek looking expression on her face.

"Goshujin-sama. The law of nature was reversed for an instant just now. There seem to be monsters appearing on the other side of the forest." [Diana]

"Eh?" [Jirou]

"Considering the location, they will definitely be coming here. If you wish to fight back, you should get yourself ready for battle. If you wish to flee, we can escape to the mansion. There is a barrier surrounding that place so it'll be safe." [Diana]

"Eh! Eh?!" [Jirou]

"High Elf is amazing, isn't it? You are able to detect if there are any monsters coming out. But you don't need to be that worried about it. At any rate, just return to the house." [Rebecca]

In contrast to Diana who grew anxious at the sign, Rebecca-san appeared undisturbed. Well, they have mentioned it before that Shello-san and Rebecca-san were the ones who have been eliminating the monsters around here so if Rebecca-san said it's all right, then it should probably be fine.

Upon returning to the house, Shello-san who has already armed himself was on standby. Although, even when I said 'armed', he was just equipped with a Claymore. Protections such as armour or shield and the like were totally 'factored out', his attire remained the same as what he usually wore.
To put it plainly, he was just wielding a sword in his usual hunter's clothing.

“Oh Jirou? The alarm went off a while ago.” [Shello]

“I’ll be fighting off the monsters now.” Shello-san said so in a carefree manner.
Well, this was already a part and parcel of his life. It’s their livelihood.
By the way, what alarm was he talking about?

“Monsters appear when there are high mass of demon elements collecting at one place. I think you knew about that too, right? So we have a magic tool to measure the amount of demon elements gathering in the surrounding that will sound off if there are fluctuations in the mass of demon elements. That is the so-called ‘alarm’. It does have an official name I think…..though I forgot what it’s called. But anyway, it’s a really valuable item in its own way, you know? Even though we undertook the job to exterminate the monsters in the surrounding, we were granted with only one of them for our house.” [Shello]

That is quite a convenient tool. I wasn’t sure if the other world should be considered as high-tech or low-tech now.

“It’s almost the time when the two moons overlap one another. There will be more monsters springing out after this period. If Jirou wants to gain some fighting experience, this might be a good time for you to give it a try.” [Shello]

Monster and battle….. It did interest me yet it felt scary at the same time……… I have an impulse to give my weapon performance a try in an actual combat……..Though, I truly want to avoid experiencing a hard fight. Pressure-free! It’s important to feel at ease in a battle too! It’s the real motive of those under the pressure-free training to be peerless warriors too if they could!

“…..It’s almost time. Then I shall go off for a while.” [Shello]

Saying so, Shello-san made his way to the forest. Even with a huge sword over his shoulder, his posture remained relaxed to the very end. I couldn’t feel any kind of fighting spirit from the way he walked.
Since Shello-san’s house is located on a small hill, we could see the profile of his back as he descended to the entrance of the forest. The distance from here to the entrance should be around 200m.
Rebecca-san on the other hand, went inside the house and returned shortly with a large sized bow and arrow. It didn’t seem likely for Shello-san to fail in defeating the opponents but, it might be just as an assurance—or something.

Shello-san stopped walking after about 100m. After a few minutes, the edge of one section of the forest at which Shello-san was glaring could be seen rustling —-and that fellow emerged from the thick foliage.

Rinkage’s Footnotes

1. Kokuoh-Go (黒王号) literally “Black King” is a giant black stallion whom Roah rides on as Ken-oh from the manga/anime, “Fist of the North Star”.

Chapter 038 – The smell of undead from the monster

Chapter 38: The smell of undead from the monster

The creature that emerged from the forest was a moving human bones (skeleton), equipped with a worn-out sword and shield in both hands. Even though its movement appeared quite awkward as if it was controlled by an invisible string from the air like a marionette, its speed was surprisingly agile as it lunged at Shello-san.

Its size looked small in comparison to Shello-san. It might be because of Shello-san's overly huge size but, the height of the skeleton didn't seem to be anywhere near even 170cm. The movement looked comical and the weapon was shabby too. In all honesty, it didn't seem likely to be strong since it literally looked like a marionette. Perhaps, even I might be able to go against that thing……..Nah, it wouldn't be possible.

"You're thinking that it's likely to be weak, aren't you Jirou?" [Rebecca]

giku It startled me since her guess has hit the mark. Rebecca-san's seriously sharp.

"That bone is certainly weak but, depending on individual case, it can be quite a troublesome opponent too, you know? Especially if you were to fight them using only bow and arrow or a small knife…………Besides, no matter how weak the monsters may look, they possess sufficient attack power to kill a human without fail. You will be killed easily even if you were hit by that worn-out sword." [Rebecca]

"It has never crossed my mind to let my guard down even if I do end up fighting but……..is that bone really weak?" [Jirou]

"Well, it is weak based on our standard—" [Rebecca]

The skeleton headed straight towards Shello-san. There was no murderous intent nor hostility coming from it——rather, I have a feeling that it was merely moving towards Shello-san at quick pace without any specific goal. In contrast, Shello-san who was facing it, has not made any movement yet. Holding the claymore over his shoulder, all he did was just lower his posture slightly.

At that very moment when the skeleton finally closed in the gap and thrust out its worn-out sword, Shello-san's figure became blurred in its outline as he suddenly vanished from sight. An intense crushing sound filled the air——and, when I finally realized it, the skeleton had left this world completely.
It appeared to be killed in one hit by Shello-san's claymore. There might not be enough time for it to even consider defending itself at that speed (although, I highly doubt if there was a brain in that skull to begin with). The battle was decided with an overwhelming hit without any wasted movement. To heck with strategy or offense and defence. The skeleton has left the world just like that. That was no longer a level, in which, one could trample on anymore. Shello-san's totally awesome.
Depending on the situation…….. I did think of backing him up but……I would just wind up making a fool of myself considering the huge gap in our fighting power.

Shello-san picked up something that looks like a black crystal from the ground. Was it a dropped item by the skeleton?

"Err…., is this the end or rather, was that the only monster that came out?" [Jirou]

"There have been various kinds of monster that sprung out but, there will only be one appearing in this area. It will be a different story if a 『monster wave』[1] started emerging though. That will be the only time when the country will employ hunters or organize a troop to subjugate them." [Rebecca]

So, generally only one would appear at a time? Well, it appears that 'monster' or creatures like 'demon beast' and 'sub-human' are of different classifications. It would be really dangerous if there were a huge group of monsters constantly appearing, attacking humans aggressively so the emergence of monsters of this level would be just right. Rebecca-san has mentioned it before that only the weak ones tend to appear here but, there were times when strong monsters popped out as well………
For children these days, they might envision strong monsters to be something huge like dragon, griffon or wyvern as they would essentially heavily associate it with games.

“Nn–? The strongest monster that has appeared here was……as I thought it was the ‘Armoured Guardian Knight’ I guess. That was the last one that sprung out during the emergence of the〖monster wave〗the year before the last……. It wasn’t a monster that would originally appear in a place like this though. A total of 16 hunters were killed just by that monster alone, you know?” [Rebecca]

Uhee. 16 people were killed too……. I wasn’t sure how many people were assigned in that subjugation team but, wasn’t that similar to mass killings? In addition, the opponent was also armoured…..

“Armoured Guardian Knight……? Was it an armour?” [Jirou]

“Yes. An armour. Even among the living armours, that guy was especially tough. I had originally made preparations against that statue already so I was somehow able to beat it in the end but, that was really only by the skin of my teeth. To begin with, that was supposed to be a monster that will appear only at the site of ancient ruins…..However, there would also be times when monsters beyond one’s expectation will spring out during the emergence of the〖monster wave〗.” [Rebecca]

A living armour, was it. Not only a skeleton but also a statue. I wonder if majority of the monsters have undead attributes. No, actually classifying them as magic creatures should be more precise than undead, I think.

“Are there a lot of magic creature-like monsters similar to that? And, did the one that appear earlier came from the〖monster wave〗?” [Jirou]

“I have explained it before already but, monsters are existences that appear from a collection of demon elements. So it might be strange to call them magic creatures. The emergence of the〖monster wave〗has already happened two to four times this year………In short, this is the period when monsters will appear more frequently.” [Rebecca]

So it’s a period when monsters will appear frequently…… How do I put it,….it was a very rough explanation…….
Well, it is fine as long as I knew of the〖monster wave〗’s occurrence. It doesn’t seem likely for there to be any direct connection to me even if a subjugation team is organized.
Although, just thinking of the possibility of a large scale battle happening in the

vicinity of my mansion made me highly anxious. Shello-san and Rebecca-san will definitely participate in it…….. If need be, will it be better for me to help out in any way I can as well? Though, if it is just to the extent of distributing emergency rations to the needy, I don’t think I will be hesitant to do so.

After that, Shello-san returned with the black crystal he picked up earlier and showed it to me. The size of the black shiny crystal was as big as the size of a quail egg and the slight transparency was similar to black quartz. This appears to another example of the ‘magic crystal’ in question. It doesn’t seem to worth as much as a spirit stone but, seeing that you can only get one each from every monster defeated, it appears to be just as rare. It might worth quite a bit if one were to sell it. Nevertheless, since it doesn’t have a wide utility value like a spirit stone, the demand might not be that high.

◇◆◆◆◇

Shello-san immediately went for a monster hunt as soon as he defeated that monster while Rebecca-san started preparing lunch after letting us know that the sword practice would be in the afternoon. Hence Diana, Marina and I decided to practice horse riding with Rebecca-san’s favourite horse.

“Huge…..” [Jirou]

I just realized how huge the horse was after taking a look at it once again……. Honestly, I wasn’t sure how I should start riding it…..
I might be able to get on the horse if I have something like a small stepladder but, it might look a little uncool.

“……Marina, Rebecca-san has taught you how to ride the horse to a certain degree previously, am I right? Did you, get on the horse by yourself at that time?” [Jirou]

“I can do it if it’s just riding the horse slowly! Do you want Marina to help you with it?” [Marina]

“Sure. Actually, both Diana and I don’t even have any horse riding experience yet.” [Jirou]

“Then Marina will help you get on the horse.” [Marina]

After saying so happily, she patted the horse’s cheek then mounted the horse

by grabbing the reins and setting her foot in the stirrup. Oo….this is a good horse.
"I'm coming then!" With a huge beam across her face, she rode it slowly as it is.

"Marina….. really seems to be having fun." [Diana]

"That's true. Priestess-chan did say that possessing a specific vocation related to it will increase the efficiency rate by 5 times. Seeing that the talent will affect the progress to advance faster, it would definitely be more fun." [Jirou]

"That might be one of the reasons, but………it appears, more like, she was simply having fun there." [Diana]

I looked at Marina who was riding the horse with a smile on her face. Certainly, she did seem to be having fun just riding the horse. I wonder if she likes horses. No………, even before she became a slave, she wasn't living an easy life. So she might not have the opportunity to enjoy this kind of pleasure. That was because, even in this other world, horse riding is considered to be quite a high class entertainment. Of course I have not tried it before too.

"This might be a great opportunity to take a commemorative photo." [Jirou]

I took out a digital camera to snap Marina's happy horse riding scene as remembrance.

"……? Goshujin-sama, you have used that tool from time to time before but, what is that?" [Diana]

I was planning to snap all the photos in secret through various ways but, it appears that Diana had noticed it. Well, I did take several photos before during the dinner party the other day and a few more every now and then. It's not like it's a big deal even if I am found out.

I turned my camera to Diana and pressed the shutter. Then I showed the astonished look that was displayed on the camera's liquid crystal display (LCD) screen to Diana with a smug look on my face.

"Aa, is this a commemorative photo? I've seen it before among the treasures back in the hometown. Though most were actually reproduced onto the paper." [Diana]

“Wh…at…..” [Jirou]

Based on Diana’s explanation, among the treasures back in the elf’s hometown, there were quite a number of ‘realistic looking pictures that resemble mirror projections’. They were ancient items from long ago so the methods in reproducing them were not handed down. It appeared that……..the sole information they have was just a note left with the items, stating that they were ‘commemorative photos’.
Un. They definitely do sound like commemorative photos, don’t they? I really want to see how they look like.

“This tool is what you call, a ‘camera’. You can take commemorative photos using this item……..Though I would never have expected Diana to know about the photos…..Well, I’ll print them out and bring them here the next time.” [Jirou]

“Camera…..So there is a tool like this. According to father, the methods in producing the commemorative photos are said to have been lost so I believed it completely.” [Diana]

“W-Well yeah. It is still a valuable item that has yet to be sold in market. There is a possibility that it’ll be aimed by the thieves so…..keep this a secret.” [Jirou]

Following that, I took photos of Marina who was happily riding the horse. Diana and I then took turns, practising the ways to mount and dismount the horse under Marina’s guidance. We have meals with everyone shortly after when Rebecca-san finished preparing the lunch.

First of all…….., I should buy a set of pants for Marina and Diana. I could clearly see their panties the moment they mount or dismount the horse and the sight of their panties and bare legs were far too dazzling………. That scene might be rewarding to me but, it was too defenceless. Rather, they shouldn’t be riding a horse in a one piece……..It would be good idea for me to prepare a set of clothing for physical activities too.
I guess I should probably get their measurements and purchase the clothing at an emporium on the other side. It might be a little embarrassing to buy women’s things but it would be a lot better than buying the expensive second-hand clothing from here. All right, let’s do that then.

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